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THE TIMES

Bernard Levin: The case of the incontinent cat, p 14

Wealth tax is put off for at least a year

e proposed wealth tax will not be introduced
t year, Mr Healey, the Chancellor, announced
a parliamentary written answer last night. He
d that his intention of bringing forward the
proposals had been frustrated because of
great length of time the select committee
nsidering them had taken over its work.

Chancellor blames committee for delay

Our Political Editor

he Labour Government's
mitment to introduce a
lth tax will not be fulfilled
t year, Mr Healey, Chancel-
of the Exchequer, announced
a parliamentary written
wer last night that his inten-
t has been frustrated because
Select Committee on the
alth Tax, under the chair-
ship of Mr Douglas Jay,
ok a good deal longer over
ir work than the Govern-
nt had hoped".
he Chancellor has, however,
tructed the Inland Revenue
continue with its preparatory
rk, and he will consider pub-
ing draft clauses for public
cussion next year.
n his April Budget this year
Healey said he would be
aging forward his wealth tax
posals in the light of the Jay
mittee's report.
Published on December 11,
report added to political
l public confusion. Mr Jay
l his colleagues could not
ee on a clear-cut recom-
ndation, and the document
nsisted of five rival reports
ering conflicting suggestions.
A part from the length of
e the committee deliberated,
ntioned by the Chancellor,
report laid no foundation
which the Treasury and
and Revenue could build
clauses for a Finance Bill that
offered any hope of surviving in
the Commons.

In his foreword to the wealth
tax Green Paper, published in
August last year, the Chancellor
wrote that "there are areas
where the issues may not be
altogether clear-cut or where
the situation may seem capable
of more than one reasonable
solution." They now prove to be
clairvoyant words.

MP protests: Mr Jeremy Bray,
Labour MP for Motherwell and
Wishaw, and author of one of
the wealth tax select com-
mittee's reports, said last night
of Mr Healey's statement: "The
Chancellor said yesterday he
cannot afford to help the un-
employed, but today he can
afford to help the rich.

"If the Chancellor had said
we could not get controversial
wealth tax legislation through
without a larger majority, or
if he had said he wanted to
minimize confrontation at a
time of national crisis, the
Labour Party would at least
have understood, but to waffle
about considering publishing
draft clauses for yet more dis-
cussion is to let down not only
the party but Parliament and
the people.

"This is the pantomime sea-
son. I hope the Government will
have recovered its wits by the
time the House resumes."



Mr Wilson meeting members of the 8th Infantry Brigade in Londonderry yesterday.

Deaths mar Wilson Ulster visit

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

A *British soldier was killed* and another fatally injured in a booby-trap explosion in the centre of Londonderry yesterday, only a few hours after Mr Wilson, the Prime Minister, had been in the city's streets visiting troops during a top secret pre-Christmas visit to Ulster.

Security surrounding Mr Wilson's trip was so tight that even army information officers and officials from the Northern Ireland Office were surprised when he landed at the RAF station at Aldergrove shortly before 11 o'clock. During his six hectic hours in the province, Mr Wilson conspicuously avoided any contact with local political leaders, who have been growing increasingly restive in recent weeks about the Government's alleged lack of a Northern Ireland policy.

The Londonderry explosion killed one soldier instantly, and another died later. Later, the Provisional IRA claimed responsibility.

A big army investigation is expected. The bomb was placed in a lorry parked close to a checkpoint manned by soldiers and civilians on the corner of Linenhall Street and Bank Place, in the commercial centre of Londonderry.

Local police said later that Mr Wilson had not been within a hundred yards of the spot during his tour. But, although it is accepted by the security forces that he was not the target, the scale of the terrorists' publicity coup is also privately acknowledged.

Shortly before the attack the total of soldiers killed in Ulster during the year rose by one to 13 with the crash of an army helicopter shortly after taking off in thick fog from the Maze prison at Long Kesh. Another soldier was badly injured in the crash, believed to have been caused when the helicopter struck electricity cables.

For much of the day Mr Wilson was in festive mood as he chatted with soldiers on the ground, took a fleeting glimpse down into the staunchly republican *Bogside* from the walls of Londonderry, and exchanged pleasantries with wives of men from the 1st Battalion, the Queen's Lancashire Regiment, many from his own constituency of Huyton.

From the outset of the trip, which included a working lunch with security chiefs at Stormont House, the Prime Minister's aides made clear that there would be no political statements, briefings or initiatives. Mr Wilson made his own feelings plain when he told one reporter pointedly that he had come to Ulster to see the troops, not the press.

Continued on page 2, col 1

Senate rejects move to forbid use of American 'combat personnel' in Angolan civil war

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Dec 18

The Senate this afternoon rejected by a large majority a proposal to forbid the use of American "combat personnel" in Angola. The vote was 26 in favour of the proposal, submitted by Senator Robert Griffin, the Republican Whip, and 72 against.

The Administration has been exerting every effort to defeat moves in Congress to end American aid to the anti-Communist forces in Angola. This first victory does not mean that it will succeed. A strong coalition of liberals is pressing other amendments to the Defence Appropriations Bill which would forbid the Administration to spend any money in Angola without express congressional approval.

The Senate held another secret session on the matter this morning, which lasted for two hours. It had held a secret session yesterday during which members were unable to discover just how much money was to be used in Angola.

The foreign relations committee passed a draft amendment this morning prohibiting the use of American arms and money in Angola under existing legislation. Its members fear that America might be drawn into the Angolan civil war the way it was drawn into Vietnam in the early 1960s.

The War Powers Act, which was passed in the aftermath of the Indo-China conflict, prohibits the President from using force or involving America in a foreign conflict without congressional authority. It admits a number of exceptions, however, including one permitting the President to act provided that he notifies Congress within 30 days, thus allowing it to order him to stop.

The Act has not proved itself very effective and liberals want to tighten it up. If the committee's amendment is passed by the full Senate, it would then have to be submitted to the House of Representatives.

The various delaying tactics available to the Administration, of which the last would be a veto by the President, will probably prevent the amendment from becoming law for another month at least.

In the meantime, the Americans are exerting every possible diplomatic effort to persuade the Russians and their Cuban clients to stop interfering in the Angolan civil war.

Mr Daniel Moynihan, American representative at the United Nations, provoked the Russian representative, Mr Yakov Malik, to walk out on him yesterday evening. Mr Moynihan delivered his final speech to the General Assembly which adjourned yesterday, and reverted to what he called Russian colonialism in Angola.

He said that this session had achieved abominations and that the United States viewed its work with dismay. An advance text of the speech was shown to Mr Malik, who asked Mr Moynihan to amend it by leaving out those passages particularly offensive to the Soviet Union.

Mr Moynihan refused and Mr Malik therefore walked out when he was due to begin speaking. The Russian returned to hear the Assembly president's closing remarks.

Our Foreign Staff writes: The Organization of African Unity must resolve the problems of Angola, Mr Moynihan said on Wednesday in an interview.

"Truly, they have got to deal with it. I am not trying to make a cold war issue of it, but we finally got to the end of European colonial control, which once owned everything of Africa, except Ethiopia, and a little French enclave that is moving out. At just that moment the blue eyes reappear and with an army."

He said that United States involvement should be open in Angola.

"One after another delegates from the countries in that area are coming up whispering to us: 'You've got to get involved'.

"Now the same thing happened in Vietnam. I worked for two presidents who got awfully badly hurt, if not destroyed, by Vietnam, much of it because heads of state whispered: 'You hang in there, you hang in there and fight...' I think it should also be clear that those other nations, if they want us to do something, should be equally open."

Of the General Assembly session just ended, he said the United Nations had suffered a self-destructive wound

South Africa has 1,000 men in Angola, and photograph, page 8

Mr Jenkins keeps promise on early parole

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

More prisoners will be paroled, and earlier in their sentences, than hitherto, as a result of new guidelines agreed with the Parole Board.

Sir Louis Petch, the board's chairman, described the change, announced in a parliamentary written answer yesterday by Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary, as the most significant single development since the introduction of parole.

The guidelines keep a promise made by Mr Jenkins in August that parole should be granted earlier to the kind of prisoners who already receive it and to more of the three fifths who are eligible but do not receive it.

Prisoners' records would have to show no likelihood of their committing serious offences while on parole. An example is a first offender guilty of manslaughter under extreme provocation, who is unlikely to commit a similar offence. At the other end of the range Mr Jenkins has in mind would be an old lag with a long record of minor thefts or burglaries, who has little prospect of going straight but is unlikely to commit a grave crime.

When parole was first introduced seven years ago it was expected that it would affect about a fifth of eligible prisoners, but, as the scheme got under way, the parole rate rose to about two fifths. The changes announced yesterday are expected to increase the rate.

The guidelines, which have been issued to local review committees at prisons, say that particular care must be taken with prisoners whose records show that if they offend again while on parole their offences may be grave crimes.

The largest class is of prisoners with moderate or long records of non-major crime.

"Parole, with its attendant compulsory supervision, may be the only hope left".

Another significant change is expected. At present, when a man is sentenced to three years or less and the local review committee says he is eligible for parole, the Home Office can parole him without referring the case to the Parole Board. Excluded are all cases of violence, sex offences, arson, or drug trafficking.

From January 1, the arrangement is likely to be extended to sentences up to and including four years, and to include suitable cases of violence, arson, sex offences and drug trafficking with sentences of up to two years. But if the local review committee is not unanimous the case will have to go to the Parole Board.

Extra Bank holiday to mark Queen's jubilee

By David Wood
Political Editor

Some of the arrangements made for the public celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne, during the summer of 1977, were announced by the Prime Minister in a written reply to a Commons question yesterday.

The Queen has approved them, though she expressed her wish that there should be no undue expenditure involved in any part of the celebrations, particularly by central or local government.

A balance between splendour and austerity will be struck, not least by the Government. Mr Wilson explained that the cost of the central programme will be met by the appropriate government departments and organizations from within the expenditure limits already set, and the Government will make no extra contributions to meet the cost of other events. The scope for local authority expenditure will be under similar curbs.

"Nevertheless", Mr Wilson continued, "the Government hope and believe that it will be possible for the anniversary to be marked in a variety of interesting and appropriate ways".

Local authorities would probably wish to mark the jubilee by organizing special events, such as entertainments for old age pensioners, outings for schoolchildren, and appropriate displays. Some might wish to link the occasion with the opening of permanent local amenities already planned. Such local contributions the Government welcome.

The Queen wishes, Mr Wilson said, that as many people as possible should have the opportunity to celebrate her jubilee in their own neighbourhoods, and the days of proposed public holidays would provide such occasion.

Principal features of the celebration will include:

(1) Thanksgiving services in St Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday, June 7, 1977, and in Glasgow Cathedral on May 17.

(2) Simultaneously with the meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government there will be a series of functions in London during June; reviews of the Armed Services, including West Germany, and of the police; and a broadcast by the Queen to the Commonwealth on the evening of June 7.

(3) June 7 will be a Bank holiday; and the spring Bank holiday in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland will be held over until Monday, June 6, so that it will precede the jubilee Bank holiday. A public holiday in Scotland will be fixed after discussions with local authorities.

(4) There will be a presentation of Addresses by the Houses of Parliament, with details still to be announced.

(5) The Royal Mint will strike a commemorative crown piece for the jubilee, with a face value of 25p.

(6) Visits by the Queen to Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Royal programme, page 3

Chrysler braced for union clash over rescue plan

anagement and union officials at Chrysler UK
e expected to clash today when the two sides
iscuss the Government's £162m rescue plan.
here is mounting opposition among the unions
the 8,000 redundancies planned as part of the
overnment's package. Mr John Riccardo, chair-
an of the Chrysler Corporation has rejected
request from Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of
tate for Industry, to attend the talks and
stead is to give a press conference in Detroit
Page 17

Community spending to increase by 21%

he EEC budget for next year won overwhelm-
g approval from the European Parliament in
rasbourg. Community spending will increase
y 21 per cent to nearly £3,155m. The
gricultural policy will account for almost three-
uarters of the expenditure
Page 6

Mr Fraser names Cabinet of 24 Ministers

wenty-four strong, the new Australian Cabinet
amed by Mr Malcolm Fraser includes a woman
nd is smaller than the one before. An "inner
abinet" of 12 will decide the main policy
sues
Page 8

Less Christmas mail

he volume of Christmas mail is lower than
st year owing to higher postal charges. Greet-
g card manufacturers say their sales have not
allen but that more cards are being delivered
y hand. An industrial dispute has disrupted
eliveries to the Irish Republic
Page 3

Consultants to hold ballot

ll consultants in the National Health Service
re to be balloted on whether to accept the
overnment's proposals on the phasing out of
ay beds and the future of private practice
Page 2

Mozambique coup attempt

President Machel, of Mozambique, was fighting
ast night to put down an attempt to overthrow
is Government, according to radio reports from
Lourenço Marques. The attempted coup followed
measures to stamp out corruption
Page 8

Comprehensives Bill faces Tory attack

Conservatives promised that they would do all in their power to defeat the Bill aimed at forcing reluctant local education authorities to go comprehensive. Any education authorities that do not submit proposals for getting rid of selection face being issued with a writ and taken to the High Court
Page 2

More Government cash for British exporters

British exporters are to get more cash help from the Government. The new measures, including pre-shipment finance and improved inflation cover on export projects, are thought likely to cause controversy among Britain's trading partners
Page 17

Siege case men in court

Four men accused of detaining Mr and Mrs John Matthews in the Balcombe Street siege were remanded in custody at Marylebone Magistrates' Court yesterday
Page 5

Pope's evangelism plea

The Pope, in an Apostolic exhortation, says that in the modern world "it would be no exaggeration to say that there exists a powerful and tragic appeal to be evangelized"
Page 16

Heat warning: Old people should ignore the Government's "Save It" campaign because of the risk of hypothermia, according to a community physician — 3

Student exchange: Students' organizations at London University and Moscow State University are to be "twinned" 5

Pilot jailed: A pilot who "buzzed" Bognor Regis after a dispute with his woman friend has been sent to prison 6

Defence spending: Trouble is brewing between London and Bonn over expected further cuts by Britain and talks on the German contribution to the costs of the Rhine Army 6

Rhodesia: The Lands Minister comes out strongly against any handover to majority rule in the foreseeable future 8

Brain drain: In four months, 1,700 professional men and skilled workers have crossed the Jordan bridges to work in Arab states 9

Football: Chelsea and Nottingham Forest have been given permission by the Football Association to play their third round FA Cup ties on New Year's Day 10

London House: A two-page *Special Report on* the hall of residence for overseas postgraduate students 24-25

France accuses Britain of breaking faith

From Richard Wigg
Paris, Dec 18

France today accused Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, of having broken with the European Community's joint stand when he made his "additional comments" at Tuesday's opening session here of the conference on international economic cooperation.

While this reflects French annoyance at the airing by Britain before the conference of industrialized and developing countries of the EEC's policy differences, the essential bone of contention is Mr Callaghan's call for a minimum safeguard price to protect Britain's North Sea oil.

M Xavier Beauchamps, President Giscard d'Estaing's spokesman, observed at an Elysée briefing on Mr Callaghan's speech that "contrary to the arrangements adopted during the last European Council meeting in Rome, his remarks are not in conformity with the mandate agreed by the Community nor, therefore, do they express the Community's viewpoint".

The French argue that the mandate worked out by the Nine at the beginning of the month in Rome did not mention a safeguard price. They are choosing to insist on the broadest possible interpretation of the Nine's mandate, conformity being required of Britain not only with regard to those topics which were specified but on those carefully left vague in Rome.

As *Le Monde* points out tonight, however, although the European Community is in agreement with the principle of a minimum safeguard price France is "dragging her feet" as this was proposed originally by the Americans to the International Energy Agency and France does not wish to be seen following in the wake of the Americans.

Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: The Foreign Office rejected the French criticism more in sorrow than in anger. The hope in London was that this whole episode of the separate seat for Britain, which has caused so much trouble, might now be laid to rest until the next ministerial session of the international conference a year away. In the expert commissions, all the members of the Community are allowed to speak as they wish, notwithstanding supporting a joint Community position.

So far as the substance of the French allegations go, it seems mistaken. It was not only Britain that had the impression that M Giscard d'Estaing agreed at the Rome summit on the principle of a minimum safeguard price for oil; this was the general view.

Indeed, when the members of the Community pursue their discussions on energy policy in Brussels in January, the details of how a minimum safeguard price would work will be one of the main issues.

Roger Vielvoye writes from Paris: The International Energy Agency should take the heat out of the controversy tomorrow by fixing a minimum cost below which imports will not be allowed to fall. Significantly, France will be the only member of the European Community not represented officially at the signing ceremony.

Although it works closely with the agency, France has declined to join it, although it represents all the other main western economic powers. These countries have already agreed in principle to a safeguard price of between $6 (£3) and $8 a barrel. At tomorrow's meeting the agency's governing board will set a specific level.

The safeguard price is designed to ensure that investment in alternatives to imported oil is not made redundant suddenly by a sharp decline in the prices set by the organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Fixing the price will be part of a package deal that will set guidelines for the stepping up of energy conservation and co-operation in the development of new forms of energy.

Compromise sought, page 8

MPs to hold a 4-day debate on devolution

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Short, Leader of the House, announced in the Commons yesterday that there will be a four-day debate on the Government's proposals for devolution in Scotland and Wales when the House resumes after Christmas.

The debate will take place on January 13, 14 and 15 and will be completed on January 19.

Call to MP: Paisley constituency Labour Party said yesterday that it had written to Mr John Robertson, its MP, asking him to meet its executive.

The move came after Mr Robertson had criticized the Government on devolution and other issues and hinted that he might be driven to consider resigning from the Labour Party.

Air Force officers try to overthrow President Perón

Buenos Aires, Dec 18.—A group of Air Force officers revolted against the government of President Isabel Perón today. They seized two of Argentina's six air bases and sent military aircraft buzzing over Buenos Aires.

"Our objective is to overthrow the Government," a rebel officer said in a telephone interview from the rebel-held air base at Moron, west of the capital.

The officers earlier kidnapped Lieutenant-General Héctor Luis Fautario, commander of the Air Force, and held him for seven hours before releasing him unharmed. Señor Tomás Vottero, the Defence Minister, trying to appease the rebels, said that General Fautario, a supporter of Señora Perón, would be removed as commander, but did not say who would replace him.

"That does not change a thing", the rebel officer said angrily. "Our objective is to overthrow the Government.

The military sources named Brigadier General Jesus Capellini, a member of the armed forces joint chiefs of staff, as the leader of the rebellion. They said he had installed himself at the Moron base and claimed to have taken over as the new Air Force commander.

"This is not an internal squabble within the force; it is a movement aimed to end the country's political crisis", Brigadier Capellini said.—UPI and Reuter.

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Letters: On overmanning in British Rail from Dr Richard Pryke and Mr John Dodgson; on rules for referendums from Mr Nevill Johnson
Leading articles: Government expenditure; Comprehensive schools
Features, pages 11 and 14
Moshe Brilliant on the backstage moves that could affect the election of a new chairman of the World Zionist Executive; Edward Mortimer on the softer line Yemen is taking to woo the Arabs; David Rudnick describes the changes Spain must make to become part of the European Community; Baron von Platen on the state of Britain

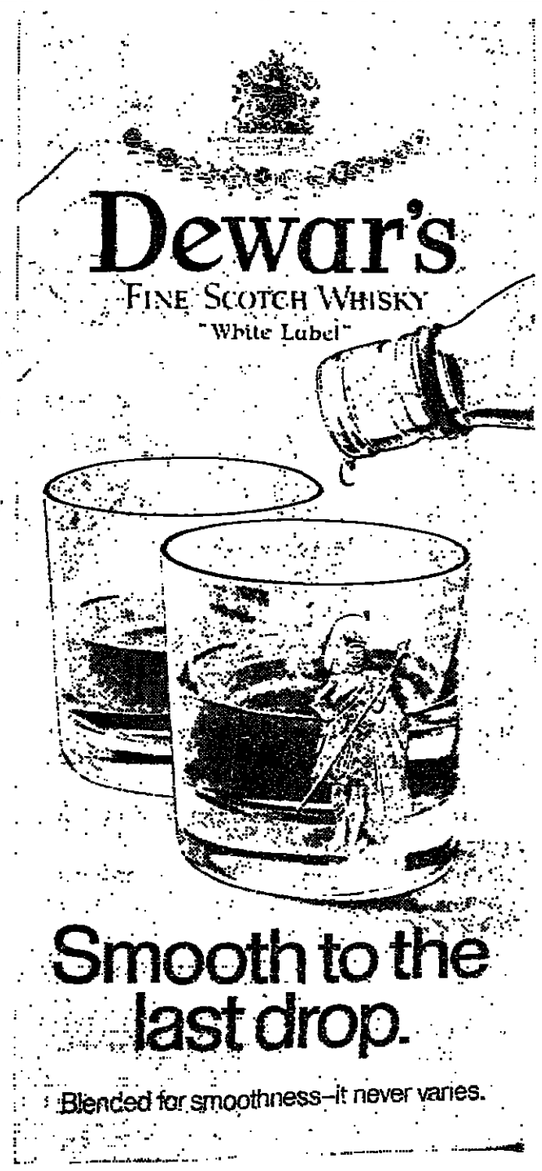
Arts, page 12
David Robinson on new films in London; Stanley Reynolds on *The Benny Hill Show* (Thames); Irving Wardle on *Artaud at Rodez* (Open Space Theatre)

Diary, page 14
A Swedish university has launched the first academic course to make a study of international intelligence operations

Sport, pages 9-10
Skiing: John Hennessy outlines Canadian team's advance; Show jumping: International event at Olympia; Racing: Star Appeal for National Stud; Cricket: Greig joins Marsh in call for head protection.

Obituary, page 16
Sir Stanley Morton; Mr Richard Hartley; Dr Joseph Suschitzky; Sareni-ul-Dowleh
Business News, pages 17-23
Stock markets: In a quiet session the *FT* Index ended 0.4 better, at 368.7
Financial Editor: MEPC after the write-downs; Cavenham reduces its gearing; Distillers
Business features: The West Midlands has had its share of recession troubles, but there are pointers towards improvements; Tim Congdon reports. The invasion of privacy by computer data banks is the subject of a White Paper published this week, Kenneth Owen reports

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HOME NEWS

Conservatives promise resistance to Bill aimed at curbing comprehensive education 'rebels'

By Tim Devlin
Education Correspondent

A new stage in government supremacy over local education authorities was initiated yesterday with the publication of the details of a Bill requiring education authorities in England and Wales to go comprehensive.

It is primarily aimed at compelling seven resisting education authorities and 29 other reluctant ones to submit immediate plans to get rid of selection. If they do not, they face being issued with a writ and taken to the High Court.

The Bill also requires education authorities to get government permission before taking up places at independent schools. It enables the Secretary of State for Education and Science to compel voluntary grammar schools to submit reorganization proposals. But there is a provision to protect voluntary schools if they cannot afford the cost of new buildings as part of going comprehensive.

The Conservative Party yesterday promised to use all its powers to defeat the Bill. If it could not do that, it promised to remove its worst features in the committee stages.

Mr St John-Stevas, Opposition spokesman for education, science and the arts, said: "The proposals constitute a rash, dangerous and draconian attack on the 1944 education settlement. Mr Mulley [Secretary of State for Education and Science] appears to have taken leave of his senses and at a stroke has put at risk the constitutional and religious settlement enshrined in the Education Act of 1944 and other subsequent Acts."

He accused Mr Mulley of being blind to the wishes of parents, the liberties of local education authorities and to the need for adequate financial resources if "comprehensive schools are to be more than botched-up shams".

He said the independence of voluntary schools (which are mostly run by church foundations) had been killed. The clause subjecting the right of local authorities to take up places at independent schools to ministerial control subverted the 1944 settlement.

He continued: "Mr Mulley is setting himself up as a mini-Mussolini. I believe there will be a spontaneous upsurge of resistance to these dictatorial proposals from parents, educationists, teachers and councillors throughout the country."

Mr Ronald Bell, Conservative MP for Beaconsfield, said: "There is not a word in this Bill about parents or their freedom to choose". He said they would resist such mean-minded and self-righteous dogmatism, and predicted that it might be the issue on which the Government could be defeated.

He said: "Harold Wilson has been a very lucky man in the last 11 months to keep his majority. Once they lose their majority on the standing committees anything could happen."

The first clause of the Bill requires local authorities to have regard to the general principle that secondary education is to be provided only in comprehensive schools. Excluded from that are schools for the physically and mentally handicapped and for music or dancing.

The second clause requires local education authorities to submit proposals to get rid of selection. It also extends the Bill to cover voluntary grammar schools. That would require local education authorities to consult the governors of those schools and, if requested, to put forward the governors' proposals about their future to the Secretary of State.

The third clause promises that the Secretary of State shall not approve the proposals if the school's governors satisfy him that they cannot afford the expenses involved in reorganization.

The provision preventing local education authorities from taking up places at independent schools will not affect children already at those schools.

Another provision in the Bill extends students' grants that must be awarded as of right to those studying courses for the higher diplomas of the new Technician Education Council and Business Education Council.

The seven local education authorities resisting the Government's request to submit plans to go comprehensive are: Buckinghamshire, Essex, Trafford, in Greater Manchester, and the London boroughs of Bexley, Kingston, Redbridge and Sutton. All have said that if the request is backed by law, they will have to comply.

Another 29 authorities have been unable to assure the Secretary of State that they could end selection by the end of the decade.

In January, 1975, there were 2,457,000 pupils, more than two thirds of the secondary school population, in 2,593 comprehensive schools.

Leading article, page 15



Christmas poultry. Turkeys being plucked at a poultry farm in Essex. An EEC directive says that from 1977 plucking must be done in special processing sheds, and that the sale of freshly plucked turkeys containing entrails must cease altogether after Christmas, 1980.

The National Farmers' Union said last night that it was giving freshly plucked turkeys to as many MPs as possible. "We are not trying to bribe them. We are trying to bring this situation to their notice", Mr Donald Avery, NFU poultry committee chairman said. He said the threat of the EEC directive had brought a cutback of a million fresh turkeys already this year. The NFU yesterday gave turkeys to Mr Peart, Minister of Agriculture, and Mr Michael Joplin, his opposition colleague. Both passed them on to charity. Mr Edward Short, Leader of the House, denied that the from 1977 fresh poultry would "virtually disappear from our markets".

Site found at last for Katyn memorial

By Diana Geddes

Mr Louis FitzGibbon, founder and honorary secretary of the Katyn Memorial Fund, yesterday welcomed the end of a five-year attempt to find a site for a monument to the 14,500 Polish officers who were alleged to have been massacred in the Katyn Forest and elsewhere in Russia in 1940.

Kensington and Chelsea borough council has approved the erection of the monument in the council cemetery in Gunnersbury Park. The cemetery is not consecrated ground, so no faculty is required from the church.

The fund had to abandon its original choice of a site in St Luke's Gardens, Chelsea, which had been offered by the council. The London diocesan consistory court refused in January to grant a faculty for it to be placed there. The gardens, which are managed by the council, were once a consecrated burial ground.

Mr FitzGibbon said the monument would be a 20ft polished black granite obelisk bearing the inscription "Katyn 1940" above a crowned Polish eagle, surrounded by barbed wire, to symbolize the "continuing enslavement of Poland".

Controversy has surrounded the memorial from the start because of the massacre date being given as 1940. That in effect makes the Russians responsible, whereas the Soviet Government contends that the massacre was not until late 1941, when the area round Katyn had been captured by the Germans.

Mr FitzGibbon said he was happy with the new site, which would provide "a quiet place where the surviving relatives of the victims can pay homage to the dead and where passers-by can ponder on man's inhumanity to man".

A number of Polish exiles are already buried in the cemetery, which is close to Ealing and Hammersmith, where many Poles lived.

He was most grateful for the support of the royal borough during the past four years, "in spite of all the distasteful opposition put up by the church", he said.

The monument would provide "not only a fragment of moral indemnification for Poles everywhere but also a testament to the truth and a reminder that justice still has to be done". The fund committee wanted an international tribunal to pass judgment "on this untried crime".

A total of £20,000 has been collected from all over the world for the memorial. But Mr FitzGibbon believes that inflation will mean that another £5,000 will be needed to cover the costs. He hopes work will start early next year.

Pay bed ballot for consultants

By John Roper
Medical Reporter

There is to be a ballot of the 11,000 consultants in the National Health Service on the Government's compromise proposals on the phasing out of pay beds and the future of private practice.

The decision was taken yesterday by the Central Committee for Hospital Medical Services, representing all consultants. The result of the ballot is not expected until about mid-January; in the meantime the consultants will continue to treat only emergency cases.

Dr Derek Stevenson, secretary of the British Medical Association, said last night that the Government's proposals, reached after 12 days of discussions, will be sent out with "an absolutely fair commentary on what they mean" on the result of accepting or rejecting. "We shall let the profession judge", he said.

The ballot paper would contain two questions: Are you prepared to accept these proposals? If not, are you prepared to let us have your undated resignations from the NHS?

It is hoped to post the ballot papers, which have yet to be printed, by January 7.

Dr Stevenson said the committee realized that the proposals provided a lifeline if, in fact, the Government went ahead and enacted its proposed legislation to separate private practice from the health service. In the debate many members of the committee expressed disappointment that the issue was not to go to the Royal Commission on the National Health Service.

Mr Anthony Grabham, chairman of the committee, said they were keeping their options open. If there was no clear majority they would have to assess the situation.

In his view the Government's proposals did provide some protection for the independence of the profession and for the freedom of patients; but they still allowed separation of private practice from the NHS, which the profession had maintained all along was harmful.

The Hospital Consultants and Specialists Association, which represents about 5,000 consultants and has supported the BMA in its opposition to the proposed legislation, decided yesterday that clarification and amendment of the government proposals were needed before they could recommend approval of them. The association was not recommending continued industrial action while further talks were held.

Junior doctors' leaders yesterday met Dr Owen, Minister of State for Health, to discuss clarification of the agreement reached on their contract. On the result of those discussions the juniors will decide whether to call off their industrial action.

Tory plan to save air industry

By Arthur Reed

Dismissing government plans to nationalize the aircraft industry as a "total irrelevance", a Bow Group pamphlet published today advocates the formation of a national aerospace development council, with members drawn from the highest levels of government and industry.

The council would consider what proportion of the gross national product should be devoted to the industry, and then establish the share between research and development expenditure, innovating expenditure, and production expenditure, the group says.

The council would develop policies designed to encourage and support different sections of the industry: the airframe, engines and equipment sections.

That would produce an improvement on the "miserable cycle of events" that led to Britain throwing away technological skill.

The Bow Group adds that the Secretary of State for Industry would normally take the chair at the council's meetings. The Secretaries of State for Defence and Trade would be members, with the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, leaders of trade unions, chairmen of airframe, engine and equipment companies, Service chiefs, chairmen of the domestic airlines, the director of the Society of British Aerospace Companies, and the chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority.

The industry would benefit from rationalization and cooperation between the companies, but nationalization was totally irrelevant and completely unnecessary. There was no need to spend £250m of public money to bring the companies together. Nationalization would not sell one more British aircraft.

"The sad fact is that too many people in the industry now support nationalization against their better judgment because they see it as a way of keeping their jobs, and because they have gained the impression that the Conservative Party is hell-bent on trimming the industry down and reducing the airframe sector in particular to the role of subcontractor to the world. Nothing could be further from the truth."

Explosion kills two after Mr Wilson visits Ulster

Continued from page 1

While Mr Wilson was finishing lunch delegates from "loyalist" paramilitary groups were going to an office near by to try to resolve a dispute threatening Ulster with widespread street demonstrations as Christmas nears.

The dispute centres on the numbers of convicted Protestant prisoners entitled to the six-day Christmas parole scheme, which is unique to Northern Ireland. Although a final compromise has not yet been reached, it is now hoped that meetings in the next two days will avert the threat of a new clash between the loyalist private armies and British troops.

Yesterday's whistle-stop tour by Mr Wilson was his third in the province since he became Prime Minister again in February, 1974. Among the subjects believed to have been raised when he met Sir David House, the GOC, and Sir James Flanagan, Chief Constable of the RUC, were security on the border in south Armagh and the likely tactics of the Provisional IRA in coming months.

It is also understood that during his trip, the Prime Minister was told of the discontent in senior army ranks about the apparent lack of any replacement or substitute for the system of detention, phased out earlier this month by Mr Rees. It is an open secret that many senior members of the security forces now favour the introduction of a system of special courts similar to those operating in the Republic of Ireland without juries since 1971.

Also in the city during the day was Dr FitzGerald, Dublin's Minister for Foreign Affairs, who held a series of unpublicized meetings with local politicians.

Scots drop trial after London acquittals

A trial pending against four people in Scotland for contravention of the Incitement to Disaffection Act, 1934, has been abandoned on the instructions of the Lord Advocate, the Scottish legal system's equivalent of the Attorney General.

It follows the acquittal by a jury of 14 pacifists at the Central Criminal Court last week on conspiracy charges under the Act, for distributing leaflets to soldiers.

After the acquittals, and criticism of both the Act itself and the decision by the Attorney General to prosecute, lawyers expected that outstanding cases in England against supporters of the British Withdrawal from Northern Ireland Campaign would be dropped.

But Scotland has a separate legal structure, under which the four concerned were due for trial by a sheriff alone at Abroath on January 16, for distributing leaflets to Royal Marines at a naval open day in July.

The Crown Office in Edinburgh said yesterday that Mr King Murray, QC, the Lord Advocate, had personally taken the decision after the English conspiracy trial verdicts.

£63,000 for injury

Mr Frederick Jeffreys, aged 23, of Morecombe, Lancashire, a former soldier who was shot in the back in Belfast and almost died three times, was awarded £63,000 agreed damages in the Ulster High Court yesterday.

New York 'troops out' call

New York, Dec 18.—Mr Paul O'Dwyer, the Irish-born president of New York's City Council, said today that Britain should get out of Northern Ireland instead of accusing Americans of supplying arms to terrorists there.

He was attacking a speech by Mr Wilson to American correspondents in London yesterday in which he accused Americans of supplying the funds for up to 85 per cent of the modern weapons reaching Irish terrorists.

In a statement Mr O'Dwyer said that Mr Wilson could end the terror and bloodshed by the simple expedient of removing the British Army and withdrawing Britain's presence.

"It is not American money that is spattering blood on the shamrock; the plant was drenched in it by Mr Wilson's Army three years ago in the streets of Derry on 'Bloody Sunday'", Mr O'Dwyer said.

Mental hospital closure plan 'wishful thinking'

By Our Medical Correspondent

Government plans for closing large mental hospitals are unrealistic in present circumstances, a report in the British Medical Journal says today. A census of patients at Tooting Bec Hospital, one of London's largest mental hospitals, showed that more than half would probably never be discharged, and two fifths had spent more than eight years as permanent inpatients.

Plans by the Department of Health and Social Security for phasing out large mental hospitals seem to have relied too much on wishful thinking and too little on evidence, the report says. "It would be more realistic to accept that chronic handicaps, including chronic mental illness, will continue, and that in considering priorities in future it might be better to concentrate on improving needed facilities."

The research team, led by Dr Thomas Bewley, a consultant psychiatrist, carried out its initial census in May, 1973, when there were 1,467 patients in the hospital. They comprised about 200 young patients with acute mental illness, 450 young patients who had been in hospital for some years, and 800 elderly patients, mostly suffering from a combination of physical and mental illness.

Overall, the psychiatrists thought that three fifths of the total were unlikely ever to be discharged. Their assessment was confirmed when the patients were reexamined 10 and 20 months later. A more detailed study of 422 patients who had been in the hospital for eight years or longer showed that most were suffering from chronic schizophrenia or an organic psychosis (a disordered mental state).

Although in most cases relatives were known, half the patients were never visited. Many might have been suitable for discharge from hospital if adequate community facilities had been available for their care, but in the absence of places in hostels and residential training centres they would stay in the hospital for the rest of their lives.

'New Statesman' gets new political correspondent

Mr James Fenton has been appointed political correspondent of the New Statesman in succession to Mr. Alan Watkins who is leaving to take up a similar post with The Observer.

Mr Anthony Howard, editor of the weekly journal, expressed pleasure yesterday that Mr Fenton was only 26, the age at which he had been appointed to the same job in 1961 by Mr John Freeman.

Mr Fenton, who will take up the post early next month, will receive an annual salary of about £4,000. His political column is likely to concentrate more on parliamentary sketch writing than that of his predecessor.

It was also announced yesterday that Mr Arthur Marshall will take over the "First Person" column in the New Statesman on January 2, when its present occupant, Mr Auberon Waugh, joins The Spectator.

Broadmoor for woman

Sandra Millett, aged 22, who strangled her flat-mate at Banbury, Oxfordshire, was sent to Broadmoor indefinitely by Worcester Crown Court yesterday.

Work to start on Winchester road

Preparatory work for 14 miles of the M3, between Popham and Compton, passing to the east of Winchester, should go ahead without further delay, Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday.

Earlier this year a deputation from the Winchester City council asked for a review of the scheme.

No coastguard cuts

No cuts in spending on the Auxiliary Coastguard Service are due, although the cost of wages has quadrupled since 1972 to £667,000 a year, Mr Clinton Davis, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Trade, said in a Commons written reply yesterday.

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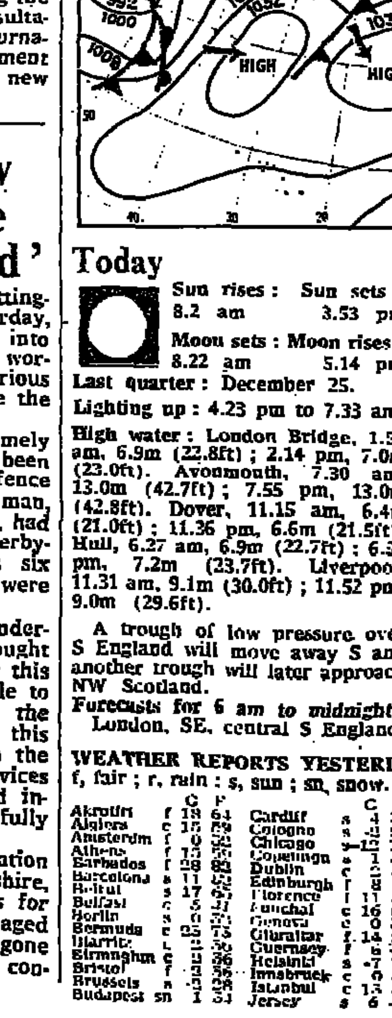
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Journalists urge three unions to join talks

By Our Labour Staff

The National Union of Journalists yesterday urged all Fleet Street unions to enter talks with national newspaper owners on the industry's economic and technical problems.

The call was aimed at the three unions most affected by the introduction of new technology: the National Graphical Association, the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers and Engravers, and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering workers.

Four other Fleet Street unions are already cooperating in talks and the NUJ believes that all the unions should act together. Mr Kenneth Morgan, its general secretary, said yesterday that the union's council had reiterated the need to ensure that any new technology adopted was capable of meeting the editorial needs of the press. "We are therefore stressing the need for the fullest consultation and agreement with journalists before there is commitment to the introduction of new techniques", he said.

Solicitor accused in conspiracy case discharged

A solicitor accused of being involved in a conspiracy to burn down Briggate Mill, Norfolk, and claim insurance of £153,000 was discharged by a Norwich court yesterday.

The magistrates accepted a submission by counsel for Alisdair Strachan that there was no case for him to answer. The prosecution did not oppose the submission.

Mr Strachan, aged 27, of Melbourne Chase, Colchester, Essex, was granted costs out of central funds.

He was remanded on bail on a further charge of conspiring with others to defraud the English Tourist Board.

Correction

Contrary to the impression given by the headline to the report in The Times yesterday about charges of theft of ICI beagles, heard in Knutsford Crown Court, the defendants, John Bryant and Michael Huskisson, were, as the body of the report made clear, found not guilty when no evidence was offered against them.

'Officials knew of crime before police were told'

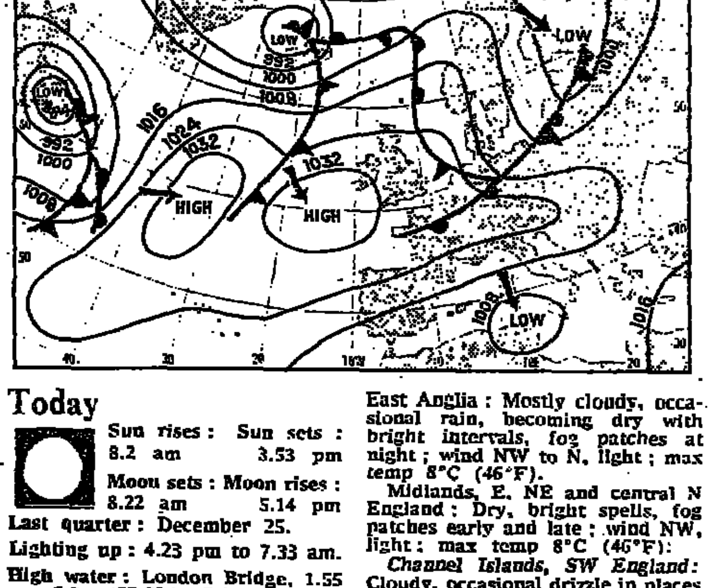
Mr Justice Willis, at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday, called for an investigation into an allegation that social workers knew about five serious offences six months before the police were told.

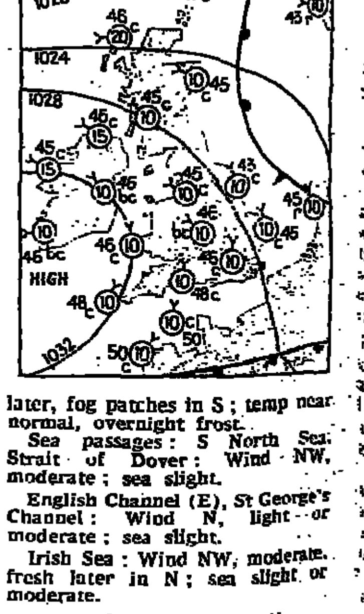
He said he was extremely disquieted by what he had been told. It appeared from defence evidence that the accused man, George Ledbeater, aged 37, had told social workers in Derbyshire about the offences six months before the police were brought into the case.

The judge added: "I understand the police have sought to confirm whether or not this is so but have been unable to get any satisfaction from the social services. I hope this matter will be brought to the attention of the social services department concerned and investigated very carefully indeed."

Mr Ledbeater, of Station Road, Sandiacre, Derbyshire, was jailed for eight years for five offences against a girl aged nine. He was said to have gone to the police himself and confessed.

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 8.2 am. Sun sets: 3.53 pm
Moon sets: 8.22 am. Moon rises: 5.14 pm
Last quarter: December 25.

Lighting up: 4.23 pm to 7.33 am.

High water: London Bridge, 1.55 am, 6.9m (22.8ft); 2.14 pm, 7.0m (23.0ft). Avonmouth, 7.30 am, 13.0m (42.7ft); 7.55 pm, 13.0m (42.8ft). Dover, 11.15 am, 6.4m (21.0ft); 11.36 pm, 6.6m (21.5ft). Hull, 6.27 am, 6.9m (22.7ft); 6.37 pm, 7.2m (23.7ft). Liverpool, 11.31 am, 9.1m (30.0ft); 11.52 pm, 9.0m (29.6ft).

A trough of low pressure over S England will move away S and another trough will later approach NW Scotland.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, central S England, East Anglia: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain, becoming dry with bright intervals, fog patches at night; wind NW to N, light; max temp 8°C (46°F).

Midlands, E, NE and central N England: Dry, bright spells, fog patches early and late; wind NW, light; max temp 8°C (46°F).

Channel Islands, SW England: Cloudy, occasional drizzle in places at first, bright or clear intervals later; wind NW to N, light; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Rather cloudy, occasional rain in places, bright spells: wind NW, light, backing W, moderate; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Occasional rain over NW Scotland spreading to most places followed by brighter weather, showers in N, further rain in W later, fog patches in S; temp near normal, overnight frost.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind NW, moderate; sea slight.

English Channel (E), St George's Channel: Wind N, light or moderate; sea slight.

Irish Sea: Wind NW, moderate, fresh later in N; sea slight or moderate.

Yesterday

London: Temp; max, 6 am to 6 pm, 5°C, (41°F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, 1°C (34°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 74 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, 2.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,026.9 millibars, rising.

1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	18	64	Cardiff	s	4	39	L Palmas	c	19	66	New York	s	0	32
Algiers	c	15	59	Cologne	s	-2	28	Lisbon	s	9	48	Nice	s	11	52
Amsterdm	f	0	32	Chicago	s	-12	10	Locarno	s	9	48	Oslo	c	-1	25
Athens	f	13	55	Copenhgn	s	1	34	London	c	4	39	Paris	s	0	32
Barbados	f	28	82	Dublin	c	2	36	Luxembrg	s	-2	28	Reykjavik	d	5	41
Barcelona	s	11	52	Edinburgh	f	8	46	Madrid	s	8	46	Rome	c	13	55
Beirut	s	17	63	Florence	f	11	52	Malorca	r	5	41	Ronldswy	c	7	45
Belfast	c	5	41	Funchal	c	16	61	Malaga	f	14	57	Stockholm	s	-6	21
Berlin	s	0	32	Geneva	c	0	32	Malta	s	19	66	Tel Aviv	f	16	61
Bermuda	c	23	73	Gibraltar	f	14	57	Manchstr	c	1	34	Toronto	f	-12	10
Biarritz	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Guernsey	f	6	43	Miami	s	27	81	Venice	c	7	45
Birmnghm	c	2	36	Helsinki	s	-7	19	Montreal	sn	-10	14	Vienna	c	-2	28
Bristol	f	3	37	Innsbruck	c	0	32	Moscow	c	-10	14	Warsaw	s	-4	25
Brussels	s	-2	28	Istanbul	c	13	55	Munich	s	-4	25	Zurich	c	-2	28
Budapest	sn	1	34	Jersey	s	6	43	Naples	f	13	55				

Overseas selling prices

Austria, Sch 15; Belgium, Bfr 20; Canaries, Pes 10; Denmark, Dkr 3.75; Finland, Fmk 2.50; France, Frs 3.00; Germany, Dmk 2.00; Greece, Dr 25; Holland, Dfl 1.75; Italy, Lire 400; Luxembourg, Lfr 20; Madeira, Esc 17.50; Malta, 15c; Norway, Kr 4.00; Portugal, Esc 20; Spain, Pes 35; Sweden, Skr 3.75; Switzerland, Sfr 2.50; USA, Canada, $1.00; Yugoslavia, Din 20.

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صورة من الأصل

Higher charges have caused decline in Christmas mail

By Patricia Tisdall

Yesterday was the last commended day for posting ristmas cards and parcels, d it is clear that there has en a marked decline in asonal mail this year as a sult of the higher postage arges. Estimates of the reduc- n vary between about 12½ d 30 per cent.

The Post Office predicted fore the new rates came into ect on September 29, that the ume of mail in the year to rch would be about 12½ per t below that of 1974.

That would bring the total nber of Christmas letters and cels (those posted after cember 13) to 709 million pared with 811 million last r. Taking the figures up to middle of the week, Sir liam Ryland, chairman of Post Office, said postal fice for December was "one two percentage points better n forecast."

While final calculations have to be made, many people ieve that the Post Office imates are too optimistic. ne greeting card manufac- ers, and in particular the ducers of charity cards, ect a drop in sales of nearly per cent. The Greeting Card Calendar Manufacturers' sociation says its members' es are about the same as t year, but it expects that a ger number of cards will be ivered by hand or put in rcels than last year.

Last year 992 million cards re bought but only 750 llion were posted, the associa- n says.

Although Christmas is a peak iod, when Post Office sorting depots handle up to three times the normal volume of mail, Christmas traffic accounts for only about 7 per cent of the annual total of parcels and letters handled by the Post Office.

The discrepancy between the Post Office's estimate of the decline in postal traffic and that of greeting card manufacturers' may be due to the fact that the Post Office's figure applies to a 12-month period.

Preliminary sampling before the March price increases indicated that there would be an 8 per cent decline in letter traffic. Later testing in the period before the September increases showed that that estimate was essentially correct as far as total traffic was concerned.

However, the preliminary tests underestimated the drop in the volume of first-class mail which fell to 40 per cent of the total, compared with an expected decline of 42 per cent. Before the March increases first-class mail accounted for 46 per cent of the total.

The latest estimate is that first-class mail is down to 35 per cent; a detailed monitoring programme has been in progress since the September rises to see if that is proving to be correct. The Post Office says it is too early to tell.

Dispute causes delays

Many cards from Britain to the Irish Republic will arrive too late for Christmas because of a dispute over overtime in the Irish Post Office. Parcels and second-class mail for most of Dublin city and county ceased to be accepted yesterday because of the dispute, which involves 1,500 workers.



The traditional presentation of a boar's head by the Butchers' Company to the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Lindsay Ring, and Lady Ring, at the Mansion House yesterday, watched by the Smithfield College of Technology students who prepared the dish.

More state aid urged for food research

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

Food scientists said yesterday that there was an urgent need for extra state aid for research since company funds were severely squeezed. The Joint Consultative Organization for Research and Development in Agriculture and Food said: "Provision must be made to permit substantial expansion of the existing inadequate facilities for food-process development and engineering at the maximum rate possible."

The food science and technology board of the organization reported that last year 10 times as much government money for food research was spent on agriculture as on food processing.

"These patterns have not arisen as the result of conscious overall planning but of uncoordinated decisions of several government departments." The board added that last year shoppers spent more than £11,000m on food while the main government sponsors on food research had contributed less than £4m to research into food-processing.

The three main sponsors, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, and the Agricultural Research Council, spent £62,000 a year on research into nutrition. "That is inadequate in view of the importance of the subject to the wellbeing of the population", the board said.

Survey shows loss of faith in Parliament

By a Staff Reporter

Two Londoners out of three, whatever their political preferences, believe that Parliament does not represent their interests or concerns, according to an opinion poll conducted by the London Liberal Party, the results of which were published yesterday.

The party's research organization found that out of a sample of 415 electors 69 per cent of Conservatives, 55 per cent of Labour supporters and 77 per cent of Liberals felt that Parliament no longer represented their interests.

Most of those questioned (93 per cent) said they believed that Britain's predicament was serious but they had no confidence in the main political parties to improve it. Only one in 14 (7 per cent) believed that any party was "very capable" of solving the country's problems, while 35 per cent thought that none was capable. That answer also cut across party affiliations. Labour supporters had the greatest confidence (50 per cent), but only 42 per cent of Liberals and 41 per cent of Conservatives thought that any of the main parties could deal with the difficulties.

Two out of three (69 per cent) said a new system of electing MPs was needed, and 57 per cent that local government elections should be changed.

The London Liberal Party concludes that the survey "shows the rising public call for parliamentary and electoral reform". Londoners, it says, have lost faith in their political institutions, and are demanding a system that works in their interests.

Driver saw family die in car plunge

From Our Correspondent
Brighton

A driver whose car ran into a harbour when the power steering failed described yesterday how he watched helplessly as his sister and two brothers drowned.

Mr Sean Bell, Mr Samuel Bell and Miss Margaret Bell, of Trinity Street, Brighton, died when the car belonging to Mr Brian Bell ran into Shoreham Harbour, Sussex. Mr Brian Bell escaped through a window while the car floated for several minutes. None of the family could swim and no one heard his cries for help.

He said: "I opened my window and got out. I cannot swim but I jumped to some chains hanging along the harbour wall and held on. I kept shouting for help. Cars and lorries went by but no one heard me. I waved a tissue over the edge of the quay to attract attention.

"The water was now halfway up the side of the car and I told them [his family] to try to get out of the window. I saw my brother Samuel's face at the window. Then the car pitched forward and sank like a stone: there was no sound. No one spoke or shouted. There was just complete silence as the car disappeared.

"I hung on to the chain for over half an hour before a lorry driver saw my tissue and stopped."

MP's move against tobacco

By Our Social Services Correspondent

An attempt to have tobacco and other smoking substances classified as addictive drugs will be made in the Commons on January 16. Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk, will move a private member's motion to bring them within the scope of the Medicines Act.

The effect would be to bring tobacco under the scrutiny of the safety of drugs committee.

Mr Kilroy-Silk said last night: "I smoke 20 to 30 cigarettes a day, but I believe smoking is a very serious health hazard. I am not trying to prohibit adults from smoking, but I am particularly concerned that we should do everything we can to stop young people from starting to smoke and becoming addicted."

City council orders estate contract investigation

Birmingham City Council is to employ outside consultants to investigate site works and certain aspects of contracts for the building of the vast Chelmsley Wood estate where 15,000 homes were built in the late 1960s at a cost of about £75m.

The West Midlands Police have been conducting an investigation after a Crown Court case last year when it was alleged by defence counsel that the corruption involved, which led to terms of imprisonment for three architects, was only the tip of an iceberg.

Detectives have discovered apparent discrepancies but the West Midlands force has said it had insufficient manpower to cope with the large inquiry that would be necessary.

Councillor Clive Wilkinson, leader of the city council, said that in the light of what the police had found he and other party leaders had decided to give some consideration to the other contracts.

Old people 'should ignore heat-saving campaign'

Our Social Services Correspondent

A community physician yesday urged old people to igre the Government's "Save " campaign and thus avoid risk of hypothermia this nter. A "policy of warmth" needed to stop millions of lerly people feeling cold in eir own homes, Dr Muir Gray, mmunity physician for fordshire Area Health thority, said.

Those who turned off their ating were often elderly ople who needed more rmth than others and who eady spent a much higher oportion of their incomes on ating, he said. Heating allowces paid to pensioners on pplementary benefit had not pt pace with inflation, and cial service departments uld not be relied on to prode heating help.

"Heating allowances are pay- g for the lack of insulation our homes and the lack of mpetent and comprehensible ating systems. It is Alice Energy Land", he said.

No single profession or partment was responsible for aking sure that old people d enough heat, and it must erefore be treated as a comunity problem.

Dr Gray was speaking at a ondon press conference to launch a heating advice leaflet aimed at helping anyone in contact with elderly people to give them positive heating help. The leaflet points out that "unless urgent action is taken many people with limited means will suffer hardship, illness, and in some cases death, because they are too cold".

The leaflet gives information on heating allowances and other sources of help, tips on how to stay warm and conserve heat, and a guide to the cheapest heating appliances. If such advice is not followed thousands of families and old people might face disconnexions this winter when they find they cannot pay their fuel bills, Mrs Marigold Johnson, of the Child Poverty Action Group, said yesterday.

"People often simply do not know what help is available because the Government does not publicize heating allowances enough", she said. "People have not discovered the ways round the rights and entitlements that may be available."

Dr Gray said that although winter had hardly started five old people suffering from hypothermia had already been admitted to Oxford hospitals.

Help Yourself to Warmth (Age Concern, 60 Pitcairn Road, Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 3LL: 50 copies, £1.75; 100, £3; 200, £5.50).

Mr Wilson to sue newspaper for alleged libel

Mr Wilson yesterday issued a igh Court libel writ against ssociated Newspapers and Mr igel Dempster, a *Daily Mail* ossip columnist. The writ laims damages for an alleged bel in Wednesday's issue. Mr ilson also seeks an injunction stop repetition of the libel r any similar words defama- ory of him.

Mr Dempster said the action ould be defended "most igorously" and he stood by his rticle. He added: "I wrote he article, which came from an nformed Labour source, and in riting it included what I hoped ould be a paean of praise for he remarkable services of Mr ilson as Prime Minister of his country.

"I have the utmost respect or the Prime Minister and ould in no way wish to bring his personal life into disrepute. feel that at this time, with he pressures of the Chrysler nd other crises, that he is overensitive to press comment."

D. J. Freeman and Co, solicitors, acting for Mr Wilson, have demanded that the *Daily Mail* and Mr Dempster should publish a full retraction and apology today; should make a statement in open court in terms to be agreed; will undertake not to publish the same or similar alleged libels; and should suggest a suitable sum of money in damages in addition to paying Mr Wilson's costs.

Robber jailed for 10 years

John Michael McLeau, aged 31, who should have been released today from a six-year prison sentence, went back to prison yesterday for 10 years for robbery.

He was said to have taken part in a shotgun robbery of a Securicor guard while out on licence towards the end of the sentence he was serving for attempted armed robbery. He pleaded guilty before Mr Justice Mais at Liverpool Crown Court to stealing the two escape cars used in the robbery, but not guilty to the robbery.

Bank holiday to celebrate the Queen's jubilee

The programme so far arranged for the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Queen's accession to the Throne in 1977 is as follows:

May: 5, Police review: 17, thanksgiving service at Glasgow Cathedral; 18, Edinburgh; 19, Dundee; 20, Aberdeen; 23-27, Edinburgh; 23, Thistle service at St Giles' Cathedral; 24, opening of General Assembly; 26, garden party at Holyroodhouse.

June: 6 (Spring Bank holiday); 7 (Silver Jubilee Bank holiday), thanksgiving service at St Paul's Cathedral, lunch at Guildhall, the Queen broadcasts to the Commonwealth; 9, river progress on the Thames; 11, the Queen's Birthday Parade, RAF fly-past; 13, Garter service at Windsor; 20, Lancashire and Merseyside; 21, Greater Manchester, embark HMY Britannia; 22, Gwynedd; 23, West Wales and Swansea; 24, South Wales and Cardiff; 28, naval review at Spithead; 30, first London tour.

July: 6, second London tour; 7, Army review in West Germany; 11, Suffolk and Norfolk, embark HMY Britannia; 12 and 13, Humberside and Yorkshire; 14 and 15, North-east counties; 19, 21 and 26, garden parties at Buckingham Palace; 27, West Midlands; 28, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire; 29, RAF review at Finningley.

August: 4, Embark HMY Britannia; 5, Devon, inspection of Royal Marines at Plymouth; 6, Cornwall; 8, Avon; 10 and 11, Northern Ireland.

Vice-chancellor to resign

Professor Sir Cyril Philips is to resign as Vice-Chancellor of London University from next March, it was announced yesterday.

He has been vice-chancellor since 1972. His term was due to end on September 30 next. He is also Director of the School of Oriental and African Studies, a post from which he has already announced his retirement from next September.

Conviction quashed

Peter Anderson, aged 49, world champion fly caster, of Woodland Avenue, Kirkintilloch, Strathclyde, had his conviction for possessing 26 poached salmon and sea trout quashed by the Justiciary Appeal Court in Edinburgh yesterday.



It may seem a little late in the day to tell you why you like them the best.

Ever since the first ship loads of Claret, or 'Clairet', from Bordeaux landed at Bristol in the 13th Century, fine wines from the famous regions of France have been popular in this country.

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The French Government also agree, because most of their 'Appellation Contrôlée' wines come from these great regions. A.C. being the country's highest and oldest designation of fine wine.

A.C. means two things.

Firstly it refers to the wine-growing area. Only those parts of France with the perfect combination of soil and climate can produce A.C. wines.

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They know which vines grow best in which soil. How to prune for a high quality grape. How to replenish the soil without artificially forcing the crop. How to bring on the young wine until it's ripe for bottling.

And thankfully, the Appellation Contrôlée regulations protect all this time-honoured expertise, patience and experience from the unquenchable demands of the modern world.

They regulate the maximum yield of A.C. wine from each vineyard and, importantly, the minimum alcohol content of the wine.

And because every wine has its own personal and localised characteristic, methods differ slightly not only from region to region, but from vineyard to vineyard.

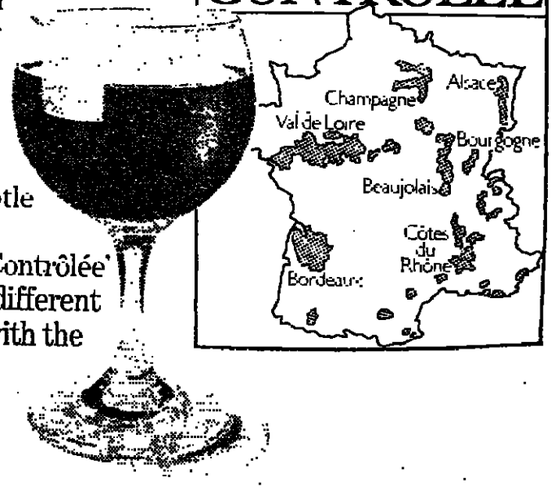
Whether it be a quirk of local climate or soil, every subtle variation is protected by A.C.

This is why 'Appellation Contrôlée' appears on labels in so many different ways. You will see it printed with the name of the particular cru, vineyard or château.

But however you see them written, the words Appellation Contrôlée are your guarantee that the wine you are buying is not only from one of the best wine-growing regions of France. But has been produced to the most exacting, traditional French methods.

Which is why you've always liked them.

Of course, it wouldn't hurt to buy a bottle some time, just to make sure.



PARLIAMENT, December 18, 1975

Eating words the front bench Christmas diet

House of Commons

During questions about the Chancellor of the Exchequer's speech on economic matters on December 3, and its relationship to Government policy.

MR WHITELAW, Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Perrith and the Border, C), said: It is pointless trying to explain what members of the Government have said. They will have to spend the Christmas recess eating the words they have spoken in many recent speeches.

The Government's industrial strategy, as announced at Chequers, of backing only winners has been reversed, in the words of a famous phrase, "in weeks rather than months". (Conservative cheers.)

MR SHORT, Lord President of the Council (Newcastle upon Tyne, Central, Lab), who replied in Mr Wilson's absence on an official visit to Northern Ireland, said: If we are talking about eating words Mr Whitelaw has a lot of eating to do because he ignores and turns his back on the policy pursued by the last Government of which he *was a prominent member. The* whole front bench do. They have disowned that Government.

MR WHITELAW—What arises now is that the Government of which Mr Short is a prominent member should start eating words *they have uttered in the last few* weeks.

MR SHORT—There is no conflict between the solution put to the House on Chrysler and the strategy agreed at Chequers. (Conservative interruptions.) If it *is good industrial strategy to allow* a major part of one of our major exporting industries to collapse suddenly, that is not our idea of strategy.

MR ATKINSON (Haringey, Tottenham, Lab)—In view of the *Chancellor's use yesterday* of Treasury cosmetics, is it not painfully clear that the Government have no intention of reflating the economy to reduce the level of unemployment until the borrowing requirement and rate of inflation are more than halved?

Is it a rejection by the Government of socialist concepts of planning or are they in the grip of *international credit opinion which* is preventing them from pursuing policies allowing us to reduce the unemployment level?

MR SHORT—We have every intention of taking concrete steps to reduce the level of unemployment and a number were announced yesterday. We shall go on searching for ways to do this. We have no intention of reflating the economy so long as that would have harmful consequences.

MR HUGH FRASER (Stafford and Stone, C)—After the measures *proposed yesterday would be se*riously consider issuing an order to nationalized industries to buy British in this country? Far too many of them are buying from abroad when it is totally unnecessary.

For example, *the Central Elec*tricity Generating Board is purchasing Swedish equipment which could be manufactured in this country and in Stafford.

MR SHORT—A great deal more could be done in this direction. I hope the nationalized industries will note what he has said.

MR PATTIE (Chertsey and Walton, C)—Is it reasonable for Britain to expect other countries artificially to increase their own internal rates of inflation to accommodate British exports? The Chancellor's speech in the context of world trade represented an application by Britain for consi*deration for charitable status.*

MR SHORT—Not at all. It is reasonable for countries like Germany and America to reflate to *some extent. They are in a position* to do so. We are not, but when we are we shall do so.

MR CRYER (Keighley, Lab)—Much greater action on imports is needed than was indicated by the package announced yesterday. Im*port controls on textiles, for exam*ple, are not likely to manage to prevent the present loss of 200 jobs a week.

With a Labour Government trying to produce a planned internal economy, we must have a look at imports as well and plan those rather than leave them to the vagaries of the market.

MR SHORT—I know his problems and know his constituency. The package announced yesterday was useful. The Government will *keep this under review.*

MR THORPE, Leader of the Liberals (North Devon, L)—Are we to take it from his reply that the Government reject the OECD prophecy that this country will have 1,750,000 unemployed by the end of next year?

MR SHORT—They did not prophesy that. We do not think it will *rise as high as that.*

MR ATKINSON—He has said that the Government do not accept *that unemployment will rise to* 1,750,000. So that we have no misgivings, what sort of figure has he in mind? If we have rejected the *idea of reflation, may we assume* that in the Government's opinion unemployment is going to rise above 1,500,000?

MR SHORT—I said we reject the solution of reflation so long as it would endanger our battle against *inflation. On unemployment,* I cannot give a figure today, but it will not rise to anywhere near the figure he and Mr Thorpe quoted.

Three-tier seasonal fares agreed for cross-Channel car ferries

MR CLEMITSON (Luton, East, Lab) asked *the Secretary of State* for Prices and Consumer Protection for a statement on the implementation of the Monopolies Commission's report on cross Channel car ferry services.

MR ALAN WILLIAMS, Minister of State, *in a written reply, said:* The House will recall that on April 11, 1974, I announced that the Government accepted the conclusions and recommendations in the Monopolies Commission's report on cross-Channel car ferry services. *I then said that I was asking* the Director General of Fair Trading to discuss implementation of the commission's recommendations with the United Kingdom operators.

The Director General has been *devoting particular attention to* improving the fare structure in accordance with the Commission's recommendation that this should *be reviewed when application for* any increase in fares was considered.

The United Kingdom operators have agreed to introduce a three-tier seasonal tariff for cars with effect from January 1, 1976.

There will be standard season rates from April 1 to July 8 and from September 6 to December 31, a total of nearly 31 weeks. In the summer season of just over eight weeks (July 9 to September 5) car rates will be approximately 20 per cent above the standard season rates and in the 13 week winter season (January 1 to March 31) they will be approximately 20 per cent below the standard season rates.

Lengthy discussions have also taken place between the United *Kingdom operators and the* Director General concerning the rate and fare increases sought by them for 1976. Original estimates made by the United Kingdom operators were that, due to extremely sharp increases in their costs, rates for 1976 would need to rise overall by up to 39 per cent and that increases of this magnitude would not lead to unreasonable profits.

However, the operators have now proposed, and I have *accepted, that for 1976 the stand*ard season rates should be the same as for the summer season of 1975 (subject to one exception where they will be lower) and that the winter season rates should be the same as obtain now.

The increase in the 1976 summer season rates, as compared with rates in the corresponding period of 1975, will vary by amounts from £2 for a Mini to £5 for the largest car, on the routes most used. From April 1, 1976, there will also be an increase in fares for passengers accompanying cars, and surcharges will be introduced for Hovercraft travel between Dover and Boulogne.

I am asking the Director General to continue his discussions with *the United Kingdom operators to* ensure the effective implementation of the Commission's recommendations about the harmonization conference and pooling arrangements, and also to obtain further improvements in the tariff.

Relations between EEC and Israel

European Parliament
Strasbourg

Opening a debate on the Community relations with Israel and other Mediterranean countries.

MR PATIJN (The Netherlands, Soc) said that the philosophy of the Community's Mediterranean policy showed that Greece and Turkey were happy with their relations with the EEC. These two countries were destined to become *members of the Community one* day.

The Community believed that there should be parallel agreements between Israel and other Mediterranean countries, but it was wrong to claim that the implementation of these agreements should also be in parallel. In practice, the slowest partner would act as a brake on the negotiations.

The trade agreement with Israel should be developed further. The same was true for the agreements being negotiated with Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, and a number of other Arab countries.

M PINTAT (France, L) said the EEC's Mediterranean policy had indeed run into difficulties and the deadlines laid down by the Commission had not all been met. The delays were surprising because the Lome Convention on aid to developing countries had been implemented in the member states.

SIGNOR VETRONE (Italy, C-D) said the creation of an extensive free trade area in the Mediterranean was only possible at the *risk of distorting competition.*

M KASPEREIT (France, DEP) welcomed the Community's desire to carry through a balanced Mediterranean policy. Offers of economic and financial cooperation reflected its desire for equal treatment. He greeted a delegation from the Israeli Knesset which was visiting Strasbourg. Links between the European Assembly and the Israeli Parliament were always close.

M CHEYSSON, Commissioner responsible for the Community's *relations with southern Mediter*ranean countries, stressed the importance of the commercial part of the EEC's new agreement with *Israel. The Community, while* desiring a realistic and impartial foreign policy, recognized that the problem was different if one looked at the northern and southern parts of the Mediterranean.

With Greece, Turkey, and even Yugoslavia they were concluding precise agreements. With the southern Mediterranean countries it was a question of elaborating commercial relations. A new economic order had to be sought so that countries of the third world could one day become partners and no longer remain only suppliers of raw materials and labour.

Chancellor should don role of Robin Hood in taxing business perks

MR ASHLEY (Stoke-on-Trent, South, Lab) asked what steps the Chancellor of the Exchequer was taking to tax the perquisities given in British industry.

MR DENZIL DAVIES, Minister of State, *Treasury* (Llanelli, Lab)—The perquisities of an employment which are in cash or can be converted into cash are already taxable and there are special rules governing benefits provided for company directors or employees earning £5,000 a year or more.

As the Chancellor of the Exchequer said in his last budget, it is his intention to take further action on fringe benefits.

MR ASHLEY—Many of those on the Conservative side shout *through the windows of their* Rolls-Royces about abuses of the tax system by people on unemployment pay and social security benefits, but is Mr Davies aware of the abuses of the tax system by a large number of upper management who are receiving perks worth many thousands of pounds

The broadest backs get the biggest gift packages. Will Mr Healey stop acting as Santa Claus and don the role of Robin Hood?

MR DAVIES—There are abuses right through the tax system and *people at the higher levels have* better opportunity of reducing their tax burden than those at the lower levels. The Chancellor is *looking at this matter urgently.*

MR GRYLLS (Surrey, North-West, C)—If the Chancellor is going to cut fringe benefits any *further he really will have to con*sider lowering the higher or middle rates of tax for management and thus holding management in this country, a serious problem as we are in competition with lower rates of tax in Europe.

MR DAVIES—People on the lower levels of income also pay high marginal rates of tax and they do not have the benefit of those fringe benefits which people at the higher levels do.

MR MIKE THOMAS (Newcastle upon Tyne, East, Lab) asked if the *Chancellor was satisfied that he* was collecting the appropriate amount of revenue under the provisions of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 as a result of loan, mortgage or overdraft facilities provided by employers at less than market rates and to collect information on this topic.

MR DAVIES—The provision of loan, mortgage or overdraft facilities at less than market rates of interest is not taxable under Part VIII of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970, but it is the *Chancellor's intention to take fur*ther action on fringe benefits.

MR THOMAS—One cannot conceivably say that when as a fringe *benefit of employment* someone gets, as tens of thousands of people do, a loan or mortgage at 2 or 3 per cent instead of 11, 12 or 15 *per cent, that does not constitute* a fringe benefit. Is he satisfied with the way the tax authorities interpret this, and with the arrange*ments that I understand many mer*chant banks have whereby their directors and other senior employees draw on overdraft accounts with their own banks and pay no interest?

MR DAVIES—It is a question of a loophole in the law; it is extremely difficult to prove that there is expense to the employers in providing these facilities. This is one of a number of fringe benefits we are looking at.

SIR ANTHONY MEYER (Flint, West, C)—He should tread carefully. There are a number of nationalized industries which provide preferential rates of mortgages for their employees. (Conservative shout of "And coal".)

MR DAVIES—This is not confined to the private sector. It is confined towards persons with high incomes; people with higher and lower incomes suffer high *marginal rates of taxation.*

Mr Healey disagrees with OECD prediction

MR CANAVAN (West Stirlingshire, Lab) asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer what was the latest estimate of the rate of inflation.

MR HEALEY (Leeds, East, Lab)—*The retail price index* rose by 25.2 per cent over the 12 months to November compared with October's figure of 25.9 per cent. The year-on-year rate of increase has now fallen in three successive months, and substantial further slowing down in the rate of inflation will follow if the £6 pay limit is observed as completely in future as it has been so far.

MR CANAVAN—*In view of the* OECD report published today which forecasts a rate of inflation in 1976 of some 15.25 per cent compared with a zero growth rate and combined with 1,500,000 unemployed, will he abandon his attempt to use unemployment to beat inflation?

His statement yesterday was like a Christmas gift from Scrooge. Will he try a policy of full employment combined with public ownership of the economy to beat inflation?

MR HEALEY—He misquoted the OECD both on the rate of inflation it predicts for the coming year and for the increase in output. It does predict an increase in the amount of unemployment to nearly 1,500,000 by the end of the year—a higher rate of increase than I believe will take place.

The cause of unemployment at present is primarily the international recession and unemployment has also been increased by excessive wage increases earlier in the year. I hope we shall have his support, like that of the overwhelming majority of the workpeople in this country, to bring down the rate of inflation so that unemployment can be brought down.

MR NIGEL LAWSON (Blaby, C)—It would be better for him to come clean and admit that the reduction in the rate of inflation is a consequence of the recession. What is the cause of the current rate of inflation?

MR HEALEY—He may not realize that major economic phenomena have more than one cause and that the mixture of causes *varies from time to time—from* year to year and sometimes from *month to month.*

Among the factors responsible for the current rate of inflation are the big increase in import prices *over recent years, notably the in*creases in the price of oil, the excessive increase in the money supply engendered by the previous *administration in 1973, and the* excessive wage increases earlier this year.

MR MIKE THOMAS (Newcastle upon Tyne, East, Lab)—*An impor*tant part of his strategy over the next 12 months is the price restraint scheme. How does he propose to sell that scheme to private industry if, as appears to be the case, he has allowed the nationalized industries to escape from it?

MR HEALEY—He is mistaken about the nationalized industries. Their price increases are as severely controlled by the price commission as those of any private firm. It is true that some nationalized industries' prices and charges have risen faster than those in the private sector because the Government have set themselves on the path of phasing out the subsidies *given to the nationalized industries* by the previous administration.

MR NOTT, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury affairs (St Ives, C)—While we appreciate that his analysis of the cause of inflation varies from day to day to suit his argument and those of the Labour Party, could he quote the retail price index on a more consistent basis?

At the time of the election he quoted it on the three-month basis and yesterday he quoted it on a six-month basis to support his argument for a fall in the rate of inflation. Can we have this done on *a consistent basis so that the* country can understand his policies and the success of them?

MR HEALEY—I am always happy to be lectured on consistency by Mr Nott who presided as a minister in the Treasury over that precise increase in the money supply which since the election he stigmatizes so.

If he is concerned about the rate of increase in inflation and whether it is three months, six months or 12 months, the annual rate of increase for the last three *months was only* 14.8 per cent.

MP urges Treasury to tax vice not virtue

MR TUCK (Watford, Lab) asked if the Chancellor of the Exchequer could introduce a substantial tax on pornography.

MR DENZIL DAVIES, Minister of State for the Treasury—No.

MR TUCK—Why does Mr Healey impose crippling taxes on Beethoven, Mozart and Shakespeare while many people who are making fabulous profits out of pornography, literally get off scot-free? Why does he tax virtue and not vice?

Although I am no Mary Whitehouse, in view of the fact that pornography is apparently here to stay, it would not a tidy sum if Mr Healey made those people who want their sexual appetites titillated pay for it through the nose. (Loud laughter.)

MR DAVIES—I am not aware that people who made vast profits out of pornographic literature and films were getting away scot-free. If one wanted to take action, the right and courageous way of doing it would be with social and not fiscal legislation.

MR McCRINDLE (Brentwood and Ongar, C)—Would this be a tax for men only?

Human rights petitions in Europe

MISS JOSEPHINE RICHARDSON (Barking, Lab) asked whether the Home Secretary was aware that the right of individual petition to the European Commission on Human Rights, provided for under the European Convention on Human Rights, will lapse in January 1976; whether it is the intention to renew the right of petition and, if so, for what period.

MR ROY JENKINS, in a written reply, said: The Government have decided to renew, for a period of five years from January 14, 1976, the United Kingdom's acceptance of the right of individual petition to the European Commission of Human Rights and of the jurisdiction of the European Court of Human Rights. This is a longer period than in previous renewals and reflects the importance attached by the Government to the *provisions of the convention.*

In the meantime we are continuing with our study of the implications of enacting domestic legislation on human rights.

'Codswallop' a reassurance

After MR SHORT, Lord President of the Council, had announced the business for the first week after the Christmas *recess,*

MR TUCK (Watford, Lab) asked: In view of the alarming reports that British Rail are going to *reduce investment by 35 per* cent and cut down tracks in England from 11,000 to 3,800 miles, would he promise an early date in the new year for a debate on British Rail or transport generally?

MR SHORT—Mr Tuck will have seen the reply of the Secretary of State for the *Environment* (Mr Crosland) yesterday. (Cries of "Codswallop" and laughter.) That's the one. I hope this will reassure him and the public as well that these decisions, if and when they are taken, will be taken by *ministers.*

Aid for fishing

MR JAMES JOHNSON (Kingston upon Hull, West, Lab) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, what arrangements he proposed to make for fishing vessel grants and loans in 1976.

MR BISHOP, Minister of State, *in a written reply, said:* The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales will shortly lay before the House an order continuing the rate of grant at 25 per cent for all approvals given under the new scheme during 1976. The arrangements for loans by the statutory bodies also remain unchanged.

West's finance ministers all mistaken about depths of 1975 depression

MR GOW (Eastbourne, C) asked *what steps the Chancellor of the* Exchequer was proposing to take in order to improve the monitoring of the public sector borrowing requirement.

MR HEALEY—My officials are working continuously on the improvement of information about developments in the public sector borrowing requirement.

MR GOW—On April 15, Mr Healey told the House that a borrowing requirement in excess of £10,000m would involve unacceptable risks. On the same occasion, he said it was his intention to reduce the borrowing requirement below that figure by well over £1,000m. To accept a borrowing requirement for this year in excess of £12,000m is to gamble recklessly with the finances of this country.

MR HEALEY—I agree I made that statement and prediction in April, but like all my fellow *finance ministers in other western* countries I have been able to check, we were all mistaken about the depths of the depression this year. *This has increased the bor*rowing requirement beyond what I then expected. It is too soon to say by precisely how much.

If we compare like with like, our general Government deficit is lower than western Germany at present, and in the same range as most other countries.

MRS BAIN (East Dunbartonshire, Scot Nat)—How much of *Scottish oil has been staked as* collateral against the public sector borrowing requirement?

MR HEALEY—None.

MR WATKINSON (West Gloucestershire, Lab)—Particularly in defence debates, the Opposition are always calling for increased expenditure which will require an increased borrowing requirement. In the longer-term, if we are to get *the investment he require*s—and we all need—is it necessary to reduce that borrowing requirement?

MR HEALEY—I agree. My views on this matter are in line with all my colleagues in the western world.

SIR GEOFFREY HOWE, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury matters (East Surrey, C)—There is an important difference between the position on which he continues to rely in Germany, and his own position. Whereas he has overshot his forecast for the borrowing requirement by £3,000m, in Germany they appear to have managed to get the borrowing requirement under their expectation by £1,000m.

The longer he goes on carrying a high and rising borrowing requirement, the longer he will go on putting off and retarding prospects of an upturn in private industries.

MR HEALEY—He has totally miscalculated on Germany. The German public sector deficit is estimated at almost twice the percentage of GDP on which it was estimated six months ago.

It is true that a statistical mistake was made in Germany, according to the German authorities, which has led to a recalculation of the deficit at 7.5 per cent rather than 8 per cent.

Our deficit, calculated by the same formula, even if the borrowing requirement was as high as £12,000m this year, which I do not believe it will be, would still only be 6.5 per cent of GDP.

Indictments other than treason better in terrorist cases

MR EDWARD SHORT, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House (Newcastle upon Tyne, Central, Lab), moved that the Christmas adjournment should be from tomorrow until January 12.

MR STONEHOUSE (Walsall, North, Lab) said that it was deplorable that the Government had allowed themselves to reach a situation almost of war with Iceland when most people in Britain recognized that Iceland had a legitimate point. It was an example of the arrogance and inflexibility of the Government's policy that they had failed to reach an agreement with Iceland.

SIR FREDERIC BENNETT (Torbay, C) asked why the law of treason was not being invoked in *offences of terrorism because* it was feared the death penalty would be mandatory on conviction? Or was it because in the judgment of the law officers none of the *crimes* committed by the IRA in the past two years were treasonable? The House and the country were entitled to know because nothing was worse for respect for law and order than to have laws on the statute book which were ignored.

MR TUCK (Watford, Lab) said it was not right that the Government should continue to turn a *blind eye against the criticism* levelled against the invalid tricycle. Introducing a mobility allowance was not the answer to *the difficulties of the handicapped.* It provided no effective alternative for the tricycle driver who needed a vehicle to go to work or to retain his independence at home.

MR REES-DAVIES (Thanet, West, C) said the Law Commission were intent upon reforming and bringing up to date the law of treason, and the Government should initiate that urgently. Terrorists should be indicted in accordance with the law of treason rather than being charged with terrorist activities as such.

Hand plucked turkeys should be excluded from EEC regulations which would have a terrible effect on the future of the British turkey industry. There were only two or three turkey producers in the country who would be able to *afford the immense burden of* costs involved in meeting food processing factory regulations at a minimum cost of £100,000.

MR MILLS (West Devon, C) said they would have to fight strongly to obtain the New York dressed turkey.

This does not mean (he said) that one is opposed to hygiene, cleanliness and correct preparation of birds which are going to be frozen and then sold to consumers but we should allow housewives and other consumers to have the choice between the oven-ready bird, frozen, and a New York dressed one.

The use of minibuses had been affected by an interpretation by the courts of the Road Traffic Act 1960 and also by EEC regulations coming into force on January 1, 1976. Fear of the interpretation of the 1960 Act had resulted in schoolchildren, youth clubs, pensioners and the handicapped being denied transport in minibuses which had probably been bought with people's savings.

MR MICHAEL LATHAM (Melton, C) said there was an urgent need to have a full-scale debate on the serious increase in Civil Service manpower. On March 1, 1974, *when the Government took office,* there were 697,059 civil servants in post. On July 1, 1975, there were 707,982, an increase of 11,000 in the first 16 months of the Government's tenure. On October 1, 1975, there were 719,145, a further increase of 11,000 in three months.

If the Civil Service expanded it was not the fault of the individual civil servants. The fault lay solely on ministers in bringing forward new policies which required an increase in the Civil Service to administer them.

The constitution unit in the Cabinet office had a staff of 32 at an additional cost to the taxpayer of £264,000 a year. Of the 32 staff, 22 were transferred from other ministries, five transferred from within the Cabinet office and five recruited directly. All but six of those transferred and seconded from other departments had been or were being replaced in their previous positions.

MR COSTAIN (Folkestone and Hythe, C) said horticulture was an industry in which the country *ought to be self-sufficient. The in*dustry should get a fair deal on subsidies and receive the same as were given in other EEC nations.

The effects of disease in the industry should be considered. There were alarming reports of the spread of a new plum disease. If this disease was to continue to spread it might mean it would not be possible to grow a single Victoria plum in Britain.

North Sea gas was now an excellent medium for fuelling greenhouses. A number of commercial growers *did not have gas laid on. Instead of* wasting money on producing cars that people did not want the Government should supply gas mains to these growers.

MR ADLEY (Christchurch and Lymington, C) said that the action of the Chancellor yesterday in taking off restrictions on hire purchase would go some way to help to repair the severe damage which had been done to the boat industry *by the imposition of 25 per cent* VAT. The Chancellor should take a further step and remove the 25 per *cent* VAT.

The levying of 25 per cent VAT on boats brought to Britain for sale had had the immediate effect of making sure that nobody would bring their own boats to Britain to try to sell them in order to buy a British-built boat in a British boatyard.

MR PEYTON, Opposition spokesman on House of Commons affairs (Yeovil, C), said the expansion of the Civil Service always stemmed from Government ministers and their activities, it was not self-expanding. It expanded to serve the whims of ministers, some of which were from time to time ridiculous and overweaning.

Unless care was taken, Britain would be without a glasshouse industry and as a result would be left at the mercy of foreign competitors. Not only would the balance of *payments suffer, but serious,* possibly irreparable, harm would have been inflicted upon hard working people within the industry.

MR SHORT, Lord President of the Council, said the British Government were ready and willing to resume negotiations anywhere at any time over Iceland and they hoped that the Icelandic Government would soon indicate *that they were prepared to resume* talks.

The Government were determined to protect the reasonable interest of the fishing industry in accordance with international law. Britain had two international law decisions indicating that her posture was a correct one.

The law on treason was archaic in the extreme and had been referred to the Law Commission for review as part of the programme of codification of the criminal law. To succeed on a charge of treason against terrorists it would be necessary to show that the activities amounted to levying war.

There were other relatively modern statutes under which charges could be brought. They *were more appropriate and more* likely to lead to successful prosecution.

Some recent press reports had *given the impression that from* 1977 onwards fresh poultry would virtually disappear from the market and Britain would be left only with the frozen variety. That was not so.

There was every reason to expect that the poultry industry which was highly flexible would meet the demand for unfrozen production in the years ahead.

There would be no announcement about any defence cuts before the House resumed. No cuts would be made which impaired their contribution to Nato, but they were still spending a higher percentage of gross domestic product on defence than their allies in Europe. Their contribution should be roughly equivalent in GDP terms to that of their allies.

On minibuses in rural areas, he *said there had been misunderstand*ing about the extent to which current operations were legal. They had been trying to clarify with Age *Concern and other bodies in order* to assess their operations, but amendment of the law about hire or reward was an issue with profound ramifications. The Government would be considering all the issues.

The Civil Service had to be staffed to carry out the work not only of ministers, but of Parliament. They would need more staff for employment and taxation policies and demand for existing services was likely to go on increasing.

The motion was agreed to.

Subsidies to state industries must go

MR WALTER JOHNSON (Derby, South, Lab) asked if the Chancellor of the Exchequer would slow down the phasing out of subsidies to the nationalized industries.

MR DELL, Paymaster General (Birkenhead, Lab)—No. I still intend to phase out price restraint subsidies by the end of the financial year.

MR JOHNSON—This phasing out of subsidies, coupled with inflation, has forced up the price of coal, gas and electricity to such a degree that many of the lower paid cannot afford to pay their bills. As a result of the increased prices in transport and the Post Office, there is massive customer resistance. I would ask him to look at it again.

MR DELL—I recognize there is a difficult problem but there is a priority in respect of the energy industries in ceasing to subsidize them. It is wrong that we should be subsidizing them. The proper way of dealing with this difficult problem is through the social security system. There have been *recent improvements in retirement* benefits, supplementary benefit rates and discretionary extra heating provisions.

MR WRIGGLESWORTH (Teesside, Thornaby, Lab)—To continue the subsidies would be a regressive policy in that it would give subsidies to the larger and more well-off users of the nationalized industry services.

To keep the subsidies going would compound the losses in the nationalized industries by encouraging customers to use subsidized services which would lead to greater and greater losses as years go by.

MR DELL—There is much in what Mr Wrigglesworth says. We have looked at how far this problem could be relieved by reforms in the tariff structure, but there is no practical way of dealing with it except through the social security system.

MR GILES SHAW (Pudsey, C)—What will the Government do to ensure that the costs in these in*dustries are brought under strict* control?

MR DELL—That is part of the objective of the *counter-inflation*ary policy. We expect that the *increase in industrial prices next* year will be substantially lower *than this year.*

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 11.00: Adjournment for the Christmas recess until Monday, January 12.

House of Lords

Today at 11.00: Consolidated Fund Bill, all stages. Royal Assent.

EEC budget agreed with extra amounts

MPs completed their long and complicated budgetary procedure today when they voted by 121 votes to three, with five abstentions, in favour of a Community budget for next year of 7·575m units of account (about £3,155m sterling).

This figure includes 90m units of account which a parliamentary delegation persuaded the Council of Ministers to put back earlier *this month after their pruning* of the original Commission proposals, and 12m units of account which *MPs voted for today and which is* likely to be accepted by the *Council* without further argument.

LORD BRUCE of DONINGTON (United Kingdom, Lab) and MR DYKES (UK, Harrow, East, C) both abstained on the grounds that the budget was fundamentally *unsound.*

Extension of 'Dragon' not favoured

On the second reading of the Consolidated Fund Bill.

MR PALMER (Bristol, North-East, Lab), opening a debate on *the Government's decision to aban*don the European "Dragon" reactor project at Winfrith, Dorset, said the project was a brilliant example of European scientific collaboration for the general good of the world.

It seems (he said) that we are demanding of our partners that they should give a clear indication by March 31 that they will take up the financial gap left by a considerably lower British contribution. Failing that, from the United Kingdom point of view we are prepared *to see the whole thing come to an* end.

Britain really had to come out from behind the curtain on this *matter. What was needed was a* joint Anglo-German project. If that was met and it was suggested that finance was the problem, the Americans would be prepared to give considerable assistance because although the Americans had been doing equivalent work on high temperature reactor technology it had not been too successful.

MR PATRICK JENKIN, Opposition *spokesman on energy* (Wanstead and Woodford, C), said the Government had been guilty of prevarication. They had shifted their ground again and again. They had made no effort to save the project. The staff of Winfrith had every right to feel angry and let down, and it was not surprising that they believed that the Government were from the outset determined to kill the project.

MR EADIE, Under Secretary for Coal (Midlothian, Lab), said that the OECD Dragon project had been a successful international venture. Since its inception in 1959 it had been extended five times. The current agreement expired at the end of March, 1976.

Looked at from the standpoint of Britain's nuclear reactor policy, the Government were not in favour of a further extension of the project. They were conscious of their special position as host country and did not want the project to be brought to an end if the other signatories wanted to continue the work.

There had been no change about nuclear priorities or the high temperature reactor since the publication of the White Paper last year.

They had to recognize that Dragon was an experimental reactor and in no sense a prototype. Continuing with it would not have given them a commercial capability. There were fears that its termination might affect the views of their European partners on the siting of EEC projects in the United Kingdom. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers, Dragon was not on the agenda nor was it discussed.

The reactor had been dismantled and work had been undertaken to put it in a safe condition. Short-term maintenance costs were estimated to be £60,000 a year.

Socialist economists

MR ATKINSON (Haringey, Tottenham, Lab) asked if the Chancellor of the Exchequer would seek to arrange the setting up of an advisory group of socialist economists whose function would be to show *how both unemployment and* prices could be reduced simultaneously.

MR DELL, Paymaster General—*No. The Chancellor already* receives a range of advice from socialist economists. (Conservative laughter.)

Our policies are perfectly clear. The key to reducing inflation and unemployment lies in the policies set out in our July White Paper, *The Attack on Inflation.*

The route back to full employment must be through higher exports and improved investment.

MR ATKINSON—With the greatest of respect to Mr Dell, this question was intended for the Chancellor. It is obvious he has ducked it—(Conservative laughter)—and therefore I have no desire to put a supplementary question.

Exclusion orders

MR ROY JENKINS, Home Secretary, asked what use had so far been made of the latest prevention of terrorism legislation, stated in a written reply: I have made 69 *exclusion orders. Notice of the* making of an exclusion order has been served on 61 people, 56 of whom have been removed—39 to Northern Ireland and 17 to the Irish Republic.

In addition, the Lieutenant Governor of Jersey has made exclusion orders in respect of three people who were removed to Northern Ireland.

Extensions of detention under section 7 of the Prevention of Ter*rorism (Temporary Provisions)* Act 1974 have been approved in 180 cases. A further 430 have been detained for 48 hours or less under section 7 and 626 people have been detained pending examination at the ports under the supplemental orders made under the Act.

Considerable changes in Scots divorce law

House of Lords

The EARL of SELKIRK (C) moved the second reading of the Divorce (Scotland) Bill which he said was identical to a Bill at *present in the Commons.*

The purpose is not to make divorce more easy (he said) but to *make it more simple. It is wanted* urgently by the people in Scotland, accepted by the church, the Law Society and the Law Commission as the wisest lines on which to proceed.

Considerable changes in the *divorce law were proposed,* the biggest changes that had taken place since the Reformation.

LORD CAMPBELL of CROY (C) said the aim of the Bill was to rationalize the present divorce arrangements in Scotland and to reduce the resort to shabby expediency in order to obtain a divorce there.

He supported the Bill but, speaking for the Opposition, it was a matter which was left to individuals to decide on. It was important that the Bill should continue its passage in the Lords in case the Bill in the *Commons ran into* blocking procedural problems.

LORD KIRKHALL, Minister of State for Scotland, said the Government were generally in sympathy with the Bill and were aware of considerable pressure for the *reform of the divorce laws of Scot*land, but complex social and moral problems were involved and strong and opposing opinions were held on the issue.

The Government took the view that any proposals to reform such *sensitive areas of the law should be* sponsored by a private member in the Commons who must endeavour to attract the support of fellow *MPs.*

LORD MACKIE of BENSHIE (L) said as far as he knew the Liberal members of both Houses supported the Bill. It was a civilized, practical Bill which was needed in Scotland.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Damages (Scotland) Bill was read a second time.

Mediation needed in Iceland dispute

LORD STRABOLGI, Captain, Yeomen of the Guard, moved that the House approve the White Fish and Herring Subsidies (United Kingdom) (No 3) Scheme, 1975, the purpose of which, he said, was to provide for payment of aid to the fishing industry for the final quarter of this year.

LORD CAMPBELL of CROY (C) said the fishing industry had been *passing through a desperately* difficult time. Immediate measures were necessary to stop fish stocks being seriously depleted. Iceland's refusal to renew the previous agreement, nor conclude a reasonable new agreement, had aggravated the situation. The Government were right so support the trawlermen in continuing to fish lawfully in the high seas.

Some in this country supported Iceland in her claim. In particular, the Scottish National Party, seeking favour with inshore fishermen, were performing a disservice to the British industry when they supported Iceland's unilateral claim and criticized the work of the Royal Navy and RAF in helping British vessels.

The Icelandic Government stubbornly refused to negotiate except on the basis of their derisory offer. To end the dispute there must be mediation of some kind. An independent scientific assessment was needed of the conservation measures required in the seas around Iceland. The Government should consider a form of international mediation based on such an assessment.

LORD STRABOLGI said he could not discuss relations with Iceland in detail. It was a question of mediation and that was equally a matter for the Icelandic Government. The Foreign Secretary had stressed the anxiety of the British Government to examine any possibilities which might assist in reaching a satisfactory conclusion to an unfortunate affair. What had been said in the House would be brought to his attention.

The scheme was approved.

Problem of fund raising in America for IRA

LORD DONALDSON of KINGSBRIDGE, Under Secretary for Northern Ireland, moved that the draft Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Regulations, 1975, be approved.

These provide for the renewal of the temporary emergency provisions in Northern Ireland.

LORD OGMORE (L) asked what the British Government intended to do to follow up the Prime Minister's remarks about support in America for IRA fund raising organizations.

Presumably, he said, Mr Wil*son's words could not be left there.* The money must go through some channels and be converted from dollars to the currency of Northern Ireland or Southern Ireland.

Could not the Government put some blockage to those channels and obtain the support and assistance of the other governments concerned in dealing with the matter? It was absurd to be making provi*sion in orders such as this when* the means by which the terrorist acts were carried out were not impeded in any way at all.

What would be said if Britons here were supporting terrorist organizations in the United States and innocent people were being killed in Detroit, Chicago or New *York?*

LORD DONALDSON of KINGSBRIDGE said the question of money from the United States was being dealt with at a level so far above him that he had better not say anything about it. The Prime *Minister, the Foreign Secretary* (Mr James Callaghan), and a number of the highest statesmen and high-ranking Americans had spoken strongly about it.

The difficulty was that money was given, say, to the Red Cross and was then abused, *or given to* charitable organizations and used for the wrong purposes.

The order was approved.

The Northern Ireland Loans Bill was read the third time.

The Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Bill passed the remaining *stages.*

The Civil List Bill passed all stages.

House adjourned, 2.52 *pm.*

هكذا من الأصل



Bravery award: Mr Harry Secombe with Ben and Dominic Pechee, who received a "Children of Courage" award from Mrs Harold Wilson in Westminster Abbey yesterday after surviving an air crash in the African jungle. The presentation was sponsored by *Woman's Own* magazine.

Diary, page 14

London and Moscow students to 'twin'

By David Hencke of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*

Student organizations at London University and Moscow State University are to be "twinned" in a programme of cultural exchanges as a result of the policy of détente after the Helsinki agreement.

The National Union of Students and the Students' Council of the Soviet Union reached agreement on the exchange last week during a meeting of European national students unions in Bucharest.

It is the first agreement between students at a British and Soviet university and is expected to be the first of a series of twinning arrangements between British universities and colleges and those in communist countries.

The first students, representing the 70,000 undergraduates at both institutions, are expected to be exchanged next year, when sports teams and student politicians visit Moscow.

Mr Trevor Phillips, president of London University's students' union and a member of the NUS executive, negotiated the agreement.

He said: "I believe that following the Helsinki agreement, and the spirit of détente every effort should be made for more cooperation between East and West. It is particularly important for British students not to remain ignorant of a country the size of the Soviet Union."

Mr Mihail Ilyin, a member of the Soviet Union Students' Council, said: "The Soviet Union has been longing for an agreement between a university in the United Kingdom and one in our country."

He added that cultural exchanges were common between universities in communist countries and had recently been extended to Finland and West Germany.

Four men remanded in custody on Balcombe Street siege charge

By Clive Borrell

Murder charges aree xpected o be brought against some of he four men arrested after the Balcombe Street siege, it was tated by Commander Roy Habershon, head of Scotland Yard's bomb squad, at Marylebone Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday.

During a three-minute hearing Mr Habershon applied for and was granted a remand in custody against the four men.

He said: "Our inquiries encompass a large number of other very serious offences and a report will be made to the Director of Public Prosecutions. There will be other considerable further charges to be preferred, and they are likely to be murder."

The four men who appeared in the dock were: Harry Duggan, aged 23, of co Clare, Republic of Ireland; Joheph O'Connell, aged 24, of Ennis, co Clare; Edward Butler, aged 26, of Limerick, and Hugh Doherty aged 25, who gave an address in Glasgow.

Before the men were brought into court, each handcuffed to a member of Scotland Yard's special patrol group, other officers, many of them armed, took up positions encircling the courthouse. Some officers were stationed on the rooftops of buildings overlooking Marylebone Road, less than 300 yards from Balcombe Street. Policemen, lawyers and reporters had to show passes and were searched before being allowed into the courtroom.

All four defendants were granted legal aid and remanded in custody to South Western Magistrates' Court next Wednesday. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

The full charges against all four are:

1. That you, on December 6, 1975, at 22b Balcombe Street, Marylebone, assaulted John Henry aMtthews and Sheila Marjorie Matthews and unlawfully and injuriously imprisoned John Henry Matthews and Sheila Marjorie Matthews and detained them for five days 18½ hours against their will, against the peace.
2. On December 6, 1975, at 22b Balcombe Street, Marylebone, you had in your possession firearms, viz two .357 Astra Magnum revolvers, two .38 Colt Special revolvers and one Brown automatic pistol within intent by means thereof to endanger life, contrary to section 16, Firearms Act, 1968.
3. On December 6, 1975, at 22b Balcombe Street, Marylebone, you had in your opssession ammunition, viz 13 rounds .357 ammunition, six rounds 9mm ammunition, and 25 rounds .38 ammunition with intent by means thereof to endanger life. Contrary to section 16. Firearms Act, 1968.
4. On December 6, 1975, at Rossmore Road, Marylebone, without the authority of the Secretary of State you had in your possession a certain firearm, namely a Sten gun Mark Two, which was so designed or adapted that if pressure were applied to the trigger missiles would continue to be discharged until pressure was removed from the trigger or the magazine containing missiles was empty, contrary to section Five (1) (a), Firearms Act, 1968.
5. On December6, 1975, at Rossmore Road, Marylebone, you had in your possession a firearms, viz one .30 M1 carbine, with intent by means thereof to endanger life, contrary to section 16, Firearms Act. 1968.
6. On December 6, 1975, at Rossmore Road, Marylebone you had in your possession ammunition, viz 48 rounds of 9mm ammunition and 22 rounds of .30 ammunition with intent by means thereof to endanger life, contrary to section 16, Firearms Act, 1968.

Mother aged 22 suffocated three children

A "caring and conscientious" mother suffocated her three small children over a period of 18 months when a strange feeling came over her while her husband was on night shifts, it was stated at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday.

The first two killings went unsuspected, despite post-mortem examinations, and were put down as "cot deaths". In the third case a professor who performed the post-mortem examination found that the child had been suffocated.

Mrs Ann Quigg, aged 22, of Greasley Walk, Corby, Northamptonshire, was committed to hospital under an order for a period without a time limit. Mr Justice Willis said she was a sick person who must be looked after rather than punished.

She denied charges of murdering her three children but her pleas of manslaughter due to diminished responsibility were accepted.

Mr Charles McCullough, QC, for the defence, said: "Through abnormality of mind she was compelled to smother each one for what she believed to be its own benefit. She thought she was making each child safe. She was never ever able to tell anyone, not even her husband, of the feelings with which she had to battle."

Changes urged in law on fostered children

From Arthur Osman
Nottingham

Nottinghamshire Social Services Committee yesterday asked the Association of County Councils to press the Home Office to consider two principles when reviewing the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933.

The principles are that the public, through the local authority, should be liable to pay compensation only when a child has committed an offence while in a county council home under the supervision of its staff and directly as a result of negligence; and that the local authority should be required to exercise due care and control only within the context of resources actually at its disposal.

In a recent case at Nottingham Juvenile Court the county council was ordered to pay £76.84 compensation for a burglary committed by a child aged 11, who was placed with a foster-mother. An appeal was dismissed by the High Court. The committee was told that there was no criticism of the foster-parent at either hearing.

Mr Keith Jenkins, the council's principal solicitor, told the committee that the council did not wish to place the financial burden on the foster-parents but was concerned at being called on to pay compensation under circumstances in which it had not been negligent.

Mr John Hayes, a deputy director of administration, said that they were fully behind the foster-parents and it was considered that the likelihood of claims being made against the foster-parents was very small.

Club to operate bus services for its members

The Horncastle Bus Club in Lincolnshire has been given permission to operate bus services for its members in Louth and Horncastle, for a trial period of a year, from January 6. But the traffic commissioners, who approved the application, said yesterday that they had serious doubts about the viability of the scheme.

The club is to operate three journeys in each direction between the towns on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Members will pay £5.75 every 13 weeks with a reduced rate of £4.50 for pensioners.

The club was formed when the present operators gave up the route in July.

Jail for attacker

John Conyard, aged 35, a lorry driver, of Stanley Road, South Woodford, Essex, was jailed at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for 21 months for pushing a glass into a barmaid's face because she refused him 35p credit.

Big rise in petitions for divorce and bankruptcy

By a Staff Reporter

Petitions for divorce in England and Wales rose by 13 per cent last year to a total of 131,638, according to the Civil Judicial Statistics for 1974, published yesterday. Over the past 10 years the number of divorce petitions to every 100,000 of population has more than tripled.

Bankruptcy petitions filed in the High Court rose by a fifth and in county courts by nearly half. The number of company liquidation proceedings in the High Court and county courts rose by half and a quarter respectively.

The total number of civil proceedings begun in all courts rose from 1,872,402 in 1973 to 2,164,440, the highest figure ever recorded, representing 7,027 proceedings for every 100,000 of population.

The Law Commission, in its tenth annual report, also published yesterday, looks back at its achievements over the past decade. Of the 37 reports it has submitted to Parliament recommending law reform 28 have already been implemented, wholly or in part, by Act of Parliament.

Parliament has also enacted legislation to give effect to every one of the commission's 16 reports on the amendment of Acts with a view to their consolidation or with statute law revision.

In all, the commission has prepared 71 reports and other documents which have been submitted to Parliament, and has published 66 working papers. Family law is the field in which the commission feels it has made the greatest progress.

Civil Judicial Statistics for the year 1974. Command Paper No 6261. Stationery Office, £1.40.

The Law Commission. Tenth Annual Report 1974-75. Command Paper No 51. Stationery Office, 55p.

Dockland scheme

A stretch of derelict dockland at Govan, Glasgow, is to be made into a tree-lined promenade, at a cost of £400,000. It will be the first environmental project by the Scottish Development Agency.

Plan for regional opera base in Leeds

By Kenneth Gosling
Arts Reporter

The Arts Council is to support a plan for the English National Opera Company to set up a base in Leeds, it was announced yesterday. It would provide a regionally based company parallel to that at the Coliseum, in London, with a small nucleus of artists and staff drawn from the talent now available.

The proposal has emerged from a working group set up last September by the council to define the demand for touring opera, with special reference to middlescale theatres in England, and to examine the resources available to meet that demand.

Professor Basil Deane, of Manchester University, was chairman of the group, which concluded that demand for increased opera performances existed in both large and middle-scale theatres. It recommended that the council should seek to meet this demand in its planning for 1977-78.

The most effective and economical way to meet the demand, the group said, was to draw further on the available capacity existing among opera companies already receiving subsidy. A base for the English National Opera in Leeds could help to solve many of the difficulties of trying to meet demands for opera in the large and middle-scale theatres.

The group, however, said it could not advise the council to support a proposal by Phoenix Opera, which had planned a specially mounted tour of eight weeks in the autumn. It will be the second time this year that Phoenix has been rebuffed by the council, which withdrew its annual £60,000 grant last February.

What the Leeds scheme envisages, provided financial support is forthcoming from local authorities, is a company playing for six weeks at the Grand Theatre and taking on the bulk of the English National Opera's touring, performing for up to 18 weeks in large theatres and for, say, eight week in middle-scale theatres, which are defined as buildings with a capacity of 500 to 1,000 people. The project could not be realized before the end of 1977.

Mr Angus Stirling, deputy secretary-general of the council, said preliminary estimates had been drawn up, and some funds would clearly have to come from local authorities who would benefit from having a regional company in the area.

Mr Stirling said both the company and the city of Leeds were keen to explore the project in "a very positive way". Money now earmarked for the smaller touring productions of ENO would be available for the new company; the Coliseum had found itself very stretched in carrying out those tours. Larger productions would still go out from London.

The plan is in line with the council's commitment to regional development, although funds may not be available. But, as Mr Stirling said at a press conference, "unless one plans two years ahead one is never going to do anything for the regions at all".

Mr Roy Shaw, secretary-general, said they expected that Mr Harold Lever's report on arts financing would be available in the spring or early summer.

Rise in milk price leads to drop in sales

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

Increases in the price of milk last month cut sales in England and Wales for the first time since 1972, the Milk Marketing Board said yesterday.

In its latest survey of the market it said that the rise of 11p on a pint in November was followed by a cut in sales for the month of 17 pints in 1,000 compared with November, 1974.

The rapid growth of grass during the autumn stimulated output of milk at the same time, the board said. It was therefore possible to reach an output of 2,500 tons of home-produced butter, an encouraging total for British farmers in view of the inroads made on the market here by farmers elsewhere in the EEC.

The board reported that although sales of milk from farms last month were higher in the north of England than 12 months before they were much lower in the south.

Sir Henry Plumb, president of the National Farmers' Union, said yesterday that British farmers had given the Government strong support in its efforts to reverse the plan by the European Commission to make Britain abandon her system of variable premiums for beef cattle.

The system was adopted by Mr Peart, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, as insurance against the formation of a British beef "mountain".

"We congratulate the minister on his stand", Sir Henry said. "The commission has clearly misunderstood the purpose of the scheme, which is to assure farmers of a firm floor in the market at a realistic level."

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HOME NEWS

Government refusal to pay refunds means higher water charges

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The Government has decided that the water authorities should refund £60m in sewerage charges to householders whose properties are not connected to the main sewers, in the light of the judgment by the House of Lords in the Daymond case. Water and local authorities had hoped that the Government would bear the cost, which arose because of faulty drafting of the Water Act, 1973.

Mr John Silkin, Minister of Planning and Local Government, said in a written answer in the Commons yesterday: "The Government have concluded that it would not be right to impose a new burden on public expenditure in this way." He added that no part of the cost of refunds, which would be made at the time of next year's rate demands, would fall on local authorities.

Mr Silkin said, in answer to Mr Clement Freud, that the water authorities, given their statutory obligation to break even, would have to recover the estimated £60m cost from higher charges on those consumers, the great majority, whose properties were connected to the sewers. "These connected consumers would of course have faced higher charges in the past two years if the unconnected properties had not been charged," he said.

Mr Silkin said legislation to allow refunds would be introduced in time to have it on the statute book by the end of March. It would "remove the doubt which the judgment raises about the water authorities' power to charge for those services, such as pollution control, which are undertaken for the benefit of the community at large and have no identifiable users".

Local authority associations expressed regret that the Government was not bearing the cost of the faulty legislation, but welcomed the fact that local authorities would not have to do so.

They also welcomed promised legislation to bring all properties under the umbrella of general charges. "Those ratepayers connected to the main sewers help to overcome the dangers of cholera for all the people living in the area, whether connected or not." Mr Robin McCall, secretary of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, commented.

Pilot flew low after dispute with woman

From Our Correspondent
Chichester

A pilot who took an aircraft from Goodwood airfield after a dispute with his woman friend and "buzzed" Bognor Regis was jailed at Chichester Crown Court yesterday for two years and three months.

Judge Lermon, QC, said that Gary Michael Scott, aged 30, of Oldbury Farm, Crockerhill, near Chichester, terrorized the town, putting innocent people in grievous peril. He was a public menace, a man determined to go to any lengths to get his own way.

Mr Scott, an agricultural consultant, pleaded guilty to 13 charges, including burglary, unlawfully taking an aircraft, low flying, imperilling safety, and reckless driving in a car on another occasion while on bail. He was banned from driving for two and a half years. The judge recommended that his pilot's licence should be revoked.

Mr Richard Carr, for the prosecution, said that as Mr Scott flew low over Bognor Regis, within a few feet of blocks of flats and below roof-level, residents thought their last hour had arrived. The area around Hastings, close to where his friend, Mrs Patricia Walton, lived, was evacuated by the police.

Over the aircraft's radio Mr Scott said that he wanted Mrs Walton to go to Goodwood airfield. He "buzzed" the car in which she was being driven there.

He eventually landed and spoke to her, but after a minute or so got back into the aircraft and flew the three miles to Tangmere airfield. There the police saw him with a shotgun, giving the impression that he was going to commit suicide.

Mr Carr said that while Mr Scott was on bail he went to Goodwood airfield again and telephoned to the police, saying that he was thinking of taking up a light aircraft. The police found him driving a car along the A27. During a chase Mr Scott drove at up to 70 to 80 mph and went through two sets of metal gates, eventually going over a small bank and coming to rest in a field.

Mr Richard Brown, for the defence, said Mr Scott went to pieces under emotional stress. He needed help. He was connected with Goodwood flying club and had obtained a pilot's licence after a short period of training. He had logged many hours' flying time.

Strike warning as building employers refuse £6 claim

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Building employers yesterday rejected union demands for a £6 increase from next month, despite a clear hint that the 1972 national strike of construction workers could be repeated.

The warning of a new stoppage came in fresh submissions by four unions representing 850,000 men in the industry. It said: "Employers would do well to note the dangerous possibility of history repeating itself". Recalling that the present dispute had similar origins, the unions added: "No one should need reminding that the consequence was the protracted and bitter building industry dispute".

Yesterday's negotiations took place against a background of gloomy predictions from the employers. Mr Ernest Smith, president of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, said: "The building industry looks likely to remain in severe recession for the greater part of 1976, if not the whole of it".

During the talks the unions were told that building industry bankruptcies were half as high again as the record levels of 1974: but in their written submission the unions said they were aware of the number of firms going out of business.

"We are also well aware that wages actually being paid at site level continue to bear little relation to those negotiated nationally, and this would suggest that the claim for an additional £6 paid in conformity with the White Paper guidelines is not excessive", the submission said.

The unions argued that an immediate £6 increase would only just enable construction workers to hold their ground against inflation.

It is clear that the construction industry is in a severe recession, out of which there is no known avenue. Mr Smith said employment was in a disastrous state. He said: "In Britain alone some 175,000 operatives are registered as unemployed, and if we take Northern Ireland into account the total rises to 186,000.

"We look like being faced with a peak of about 250,000 unemployed in the coming months, and how many of those operatives will return to the industry is anybody's guess. All our experience suggests that a substantial part of that total has left for good."

The pay negotiations were adjourned to a date to be fixed next month. There is a wide gulf between the two sides.

The unions, citing the case of the Hull dockers who received a £6 increase a few months after a second stage of their pay agreement, are looking for an early increase. The employers, using the Government's counter-inflation policy and the recession in the industry as arguments, are opposed to any increase in wages before next June, when the present 18-month agreement expires.

WEST EUROPE

European Parliament approves budget to increase Community's spending by 21%

From David Cross
Strasbourg, Dec 18

The European Parliament today approved by an overwhelming majority the final versions of next year's EEC budget which will total 7,575m units of account (about £3,155m). This represents a 21 per cent increase over this year's community spending.

The budget met complete opposition only from the Communists. A handful of British members, including Lord Bruce of Donington, a Labour member, and Mr Hugh Dykes, a Conservative, abstained in the vote, mainly on the ground that member government were being too parsimonious.

Under the complicated formula employed by the Community for drawing up its budget, the original draft is submitted by the European Commission to member states and the European Parliament for amendments to be made. Most of the final decision remains with the member Governments but the Parliament is gradually winning more control.

As in past years the Community's agricultural policy accounts for nearly three-quarter (about £2,300m) of next year's expenditure. The remaining quarter will be used mainly to finance the EEC's social fund (about £188m), the regional development fund (£125m), aid to developing countries (£100m) and research programmes (£72m).

The final budget is some £150m lower than the Parliament and the Commission had originally sought. But, pleading austerity during the continuing recession, member governments such as the West Germans had made it clear from the outset that they wanted to prune Community spending as much as possible.

When the Parliament took its final vote today, the only outstanding issue of importance was whether member governments would agree to a modest increase of some £6.5m over the figure they suggested earlier this month. After a telephone call to Brussels, the Italian president of the Council of Ministers apparently gave his verbal assent.

The extra money voted today will be used principally to supplement expenditure on the social fund and on aid to developing countries such as India and Pakistan.

Explaining his abstention in the final vote, Lord Bruce of Donington, an anti-marketeer, said the budget was fundamentally unsound. He believes the Community should be spending much less on agriculture.

Mr Dykes objected to cuts having been made at a time when national administrations were reducing their own public spending. The Community's budget should be larger to compensate for these cuts, he said.

This view was not shared by other British MPs. Mr Tam Dalyell, a Labour member, said after the vote that he could not see how some of his colleagues could vote for increased Community expenditure and then go back to their constituents and plead austerity on the national level. "It is just not responsible to want to have an austerity campaign in one corner of the Community," he said.

He criticized the Community's budget for lacking any obvious strategy. British Labour members would try to persuade the Commission and their parliamentary colleagues to work out a more coherent budget next year, he said.



Energy chief: Mr Leonard Williams, officially named yesterday as director-general of the European Community's energy policy, is expected to take up the post early in January. He will replace Mr Fernand Spaak, a Belgian, who is going to Washington to head the EEC's office in the United States. In his present position as Deputy-Secretary at the Department of Energy, Mr Williams is chief adviser to Mr Wedgwood Benn, the Energy Secretary.

Moluccan leader mediates at consulate

From Sue Masterman
The Hague, Dec 18

The man who succeeded in persuading the six Moluccan gunmen who hijacked a train and held 23 passengers hostage for 13 days to surrender last Sunday has agreed to intervene personally to try to end the siege of the Indonesian Consulate in Amsterdam.

He is Dr Jan Manusama, President of the South Moluccan republic in exile, who so far has remained aloof from efforts to end the siege in Amsterdam although he has appealed on television to the gunmen to surrender.

His intervention followed the apparent failure of all attempts by the Rev Semual Metiari, the Moluccan clergyman who is second to Dr Manusama in the hierarchy of the 33,000-strong Moluccan community in Holland.

Since Friday last week there has been constant friction between Mr Metiari and the four Dutch Cabinet Ministers who decide the strategy for tackling the siege.

In six days he had only visited the consulate once, and failed to achieve results. He arrived in Amsterdam tonight an hour after Dr Manusama had started talks at police headquarters there.

Mr Metiari had a short talk with Dr Manusama, and then left alone for the consulate. He spent half an hour talking to the gunmen, and left looking happier than after his previous mediation attempts.

Dr Manusama also spoke for eight minutes with the gunmen by telephone.

Dr Manusama's appearance on the scene followed a successful attempt by a Dutch prison psychiatrist, Dr Dick Mulder, aged 50, one of the 19 psychiatrists permanently employed by the Dutch prison services, to win the gunmen's confidence. He appears to have taken over the role of go-between on Wednesday, when Mr Metiari failed to turn up to mediate.

The six South Moluccan gunmen have been holding 25 hostages, most of them Indonesians, in the consulate for 15 days.

Their political demands include a meeting in Geneva between the leader of the Moluccans in exile in the Netherlands and President Suharto of Indonesia, the release of South Moluccan political prisoners in Indonesia under supervision of Amnesty International and the release of all South Moluccans in jail in the Netherlands.

Time appears to be running out for both the Government and the gunmen. The crisis control team, consisting of Mr Joop den Uyl, the Prime Minister, Mr Andreas van Agt, the Minister of Justice, Professor Willem de Gaay Fortman, Minister of Home Affairs, and Mr Max van der Stoel, the Foreign Minister, are determined to end the siege before Indonesia's independence day on December 27.

Protest poet arrives in Vienna

Vienna, Dec 18.—Natalya Gorbanyevskaya, the poet who spent two years in a psychiatric hospital in the Soviet Union for anti-Soviet slander, arrived here today with her two sons from Moscow. She entered the West exactly a year after an earlier refusal by the Soviet authorities to grant her emigration papers.

Mrs Gorbanyevskaya, some of whose works have been published in the West, is one of seven people who staged a brief sit-down protest in the Red Square in August, 1968, against the Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia. She is 39.

Five of her companions were jailed, but she and another demonstrator were allowed to go free. Two years later she published a book entitled *Red Square at Noon* in which she described the protest.

She later stood trial and was found guilty of anti-Soviet slander while of unsound mind and confined to a psychiatric hospital.

A spokesman for the Austrian branch of Amnesty International, who met her at Vienna airport said she would probably stay in Austria for at least two weeks before leaving for either France, Belgium or the United States.—Reuter.

EEC agreement on ending sex discrimination pleases British delegation

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, Dec 18

EEC social affairs ministers today agreed to take measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women in employment and to ensure that legal redress is available to those who consider they have been denied equal treatment with men. Action will be taken on the basis of a draft directive submitted by the European Commission.

Ministers first discussed the directive in June, but failed to reach agreement then because of a provision for making social security conditions the same for both sexes. Mrs Barbara Castle, Secretary of State for the Social Services, was particularly opposed to this.

She estimated that the cost of harmonizing pension rights in Britain, which in effect would mean lowering the retirement age for men from 65 to 60, would amount to £1,400m.

The social security provision was subsequently dropped, and this enabled the equal treatment directive to be adopted without too much difficulty today. Mr John Fraser, Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Department of Employment, described the occasion as "quite exciting".

The British delegation was particularly pleased that the final version of the directive recognized the need for women to have an enforceable legal right to equal treatment. Some other governments had wanted to limit their obligations simply to the removal of discriminatory aspects of existing statutes.

Member governments are required to implement the directive within two and a half years of its formal promulgation, which will probably be next month. However, Britain's own Sex Discrimination Act, which goes considerably beyond the Commission's proposals, takes effect at the end of this month.

The purpose of the directive is to secure women equal treatment in access to employment, promotion, vocational training and working conditions. It is estimated that at present there are 35 million employed or self-employed women in the Community.

After agreeing on equal job rights for women, ministers rejected a Commission scheme for making money available from the EEC's Social Fund to workers in those sectors of industry hardest hit by the economic recession.

Ministers generally felt that the limited amount of money available (about £11m) would be better spent on an already approved scheme for emergency aid to unemployed people under the age of 25. The fund set aside for this purpose is already heavily oversubscribed.

Spanish priest may be tried

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Dec 18

A worker priest, Father Federico García-Salve, may be brought to trial without the permission of the Archbishop of Madrid, Cardinal Enrique y Tarancón, it was learnt today.

Under the terms of the Concordat of 1953, which governs church-state relations in Spain, the permission of the ecclesiastical authorities is needed before a member of the Roman Catholic clergy is tried.

Father García-Salve was arrested almost two weeks ago when a thousand people gathered at a railway station in Madrid to welcome him back after his release from the special prison for clergymen at Zamora, in the north. The priest is, like Señor Marcelino Camacho, a leader of the Workers' Commissions, the illegal trade union movement. Both were released under the pardon proclaimed by King Juan Carlos.

The police allege that Father García-Salve organized a communist demonstration at the railway station.

Cardinal Enrique y Tarancón told the assembly of Spanish bishops on Monday that the church was ready to accept political changes.

In Valencia, three priests are being prosecuted for reproducing copies of a sermon by the Auxiliary Bishop of Madrid, Mgr Iniesta.

Library blames recession for drop in users

By Our Arts Reporter

A decline in the number of readers using the departments of printed books and manuscripts at the British Library is attributed to the world economic recession, in the library's second annual report, published today.

It says that services to readers in the reading rooms, a matter of concern for some years, have been more satisfactory because of the provision of extra places and the drop in the number of visiting scholars and the length of time they spent in the rooms. But at no time during the year was it necessary to exclude readers for lack of seats. The number of readers' tickets dropped from 34,163 to 30,538.

The department of manuscripts also noted a drop of about 4 per cent in the number of readers; photographic orders dropped from 4,211 to 3,892. That was a new trend, but it seemed likely to reflect the reduction in funds for research, both in Britain and overseas.

Demand for loans and photocopies in the lending division increased by 18 per cent on the home side, with 332,000 more requests than in the previous year; demands from overseas customers rose by 30 per cent. The increase in home demand is attributed to the difficulties that libraries of all kinds find in keeping up with the volume and cost of new publications.

Parties given deadline in Portugal

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, Dec 18

Portugal's Revolutionary Council has given the political parties until December 30 to present their proposals for revising the original pact between them and the Armed Forces Movement. This has been deemed necessary in view of developments since the original pact was signed in April this year.

The parties chosen to discuss the matter with a committee of members of the Revolutionary Council are the Socialists, the Communists, the Popular Democrats, the Christian Democrats and the Portuguese Democratic Movement, which supports the Communists.

No details have been given of the discussions, which began yesterday, but it is understood that they will continue tomorrow.

Budget of £125m for European nuclear body

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Dec 18

A 1976 budget of more than £125m was adopted today by the Council of Cern, the 12-nation European organization for nuclear research. Britain will pay some £20m.

West Germany, responsible for a quarter of the budget, objected to the figure being over £3m more than the current total. After discussing the objection, the Council decided that budgets for 1977-79 should be reduced by 3 per cent annually.

Dr G. H. Stafford, of Harwell, said the British Government could not now indicate its attitude to the proposed 1977 budget, to be discussed by the Council in June.

Dartmoor curbs 'would harm army efficiency'

Troops would be sent into action without proper preparation if the Services made many further concessions over their use of Dartmoor, a public inquiry was told yesterday.

Major-General Derek Pounds, of the Royal Marine Commandos, said that would be quite unacceptable. He told the Exeter inquiry into the military use of the moor: "We have already accepted, in advance of this inquiry, very substantial reductions in our facilities."

Most men using Dartmoor training areas were at short notice for operations. "My judgment, as operational military commander, is that the projected estimates of future use that we have given represent the minimum needed to maintain an acceptable level of efficiency."

Conservation groups have protested that the Armed Forces are ruining the moor.

Pecking order

An analysis of a pecking order for British universities, suggesting which are the main centres of excellence, is concluded today in *The Times Higher Education Supplement*. There are special articles on Hegel, the Open University, and academic salaries.

Driver still to face trial over Britons' deaths

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Dec 18

A court official at Marbella today denied that charges had been dropped against the Spanish van driver involved in the road crash last August in which the wives of Mr Richard Marsh, chairman of British Rail, and Mr David Jacobs, the television entertainer, were fatally injured.

Reports in London had suggested that the driver, Señor Juan Calderón Martinez, would not be brought to trial, having benefited under the recent pardon announced by King Juan Carlos. The court official said the case would continue: the prosecutor was still deciding what charges to bring

Bonn sounds alarm over defence cuts and BAOR

By Roger Berthoud

Trouble is brewing between Britain and West Germany over defence. The two potential sources of strain are the expected further cuts in Britain's defence spending and the talks due early next year on renewing the offset agreement covering Bonn's contribution to the costs of the Rhine Army (BAOR).

The five-year offset agreement provided for a West German payment of DM550m (£100m), and expires on March 31. The indications are that the Germans do not want another one, even though the depreciation of the pound has increased the foreign exchange cost to Britain. This attitude is likely to come as an unpleasant shock to the British Government.

Basically, the West Germans feel that any help over the costs of BAOR is now a matter for the Nato alliance as a whole. Offset agreements for them smack of occupation costs, and cause constant difficulties.

It was never formally stated that the expiring agreement was the last, but they regarded it as such.

The fact that the offset talks are expected to begin before the size of the defence cuts is finally decided could put the British in a position to threaten to reduce BAOR (normally considered sacrosanct) unless a West German contribution is forthcoming. This would scarcely improve relations.

Official West German concern at a further cut in Britain's defence spending (after the Defence Review target early this year of £4,700m savings spread over 10 years, and a further £110m lopped off the 1976-77 budget a month later) was voiced at last week's Nato ministerial meetings in Brussels.

Bonn has several real worries. The biggest is the effect of Britain's action on less staunch and less efficiently trained members of the alliance like The Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark. If they also made further cuts, the overall conventional strength of Nato in relation to the Warsaw Pact might fall below the level of credibility, whereupon all defence spending might begin to seem a waste of money.

If the Bundeswehr alone is living up to its Nato requirements, Eastern block fears of West German militarism might be revived. The Warsaw Pact nations are already calling for a ceiling on West German forces in the East-West talks on forces reductions in Vienna.

It is an irony probably not savoured by Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, that the man seeking defence cuts among overall savings of £3,750m is his old friend Mr Healey, fellow former Defence Minister and co-founder of the Eurogroup within Nato.

If Mr Healey's axe bites too deeply into the muscle of Britain's forces, Herr Schmidt's irritation at the Labour Government's half-hearted approach to many EEC problems is likely to be sharply exacerbated.

Nato rebuked for 'leaking' its offer on warheads

Vienna, Dec 18.—The Soviet block agreed today to study new Western proposals for military cutbacks in Europe, but said Nato plans to reduce tactical nuclear weapon stocks were inadequate.

Mr Oleg Khlestov, the Soviet delegate, told the East-West conference on troops reduction that the Western proposals, intended to break a 26-month negotiating deadlock, would be examined by communist delegations during a six-week recess, starting today.

But he protested that Nato had sought propaganda advantage in "leaking" the proposals after they were approved by foreign ministers of the Western alliance in Brussels last week.

Nato officials said the Soviet delegate, addressing the 19-nation conference two days after the proposals were tabled, spoke in "tough terms", saying the Western ideas were inadequate, but he had been careful not to reject them.

The 12 Nato delegations have offered to reduce an American stockpile of about 7,200 tactical nuclear weapons in West Germany by about 1,000 warheads in return for big reductions of Soviet block ground forces and tanks in Eastern Europe.

Previously, Nato had insisted on limiting the Vienna negotiations to ground forces, but yielded to Sovier demands for a nuclear cutback because Western diplomats believed this was the only way to get the talks moving.

Nato officials said the offer was intended to put pressure on the Russians, who have called persistently for military as well as political détente, before the Soviet Communist Party holds a policy-making congress next February.

A spokesman for the seven Warsaw Pact delegations said the Nato proposals would be discussed in detail during informal talks when delegates return to Vienna in the week beginning January 26.

The Western offer to thin out nuclear warhead stocks, many of them obsolete, is conditional on communist agreement to withdraw a Soviet tank army of 68,000 men and 1,700 tanks from Eastern Europe. The United States would withdraw 29,000 troops from Western Europe at the same time.

Eventually, the West wants a common ceiling for each alliance in the area, involving a 25 per cent communist manpower reduction but only 14 per cent by Nato. The Warsaw Pact wants equal cuts that would preserve communist manpower superiority.

The Czechoslovak delegate, Mr Tomas Lahoda, told reporters later that the Nato proposals were conditional on acceptance of a basic reduction scheme which suffered from grave shortcomings. The proposals failed to limit expansion of air forces or the means of delivering nuclear weapons.

"Naturally, the new modification of the West will be examined by us as usual", he said.—Reuter.

French expected to choose cheaper Mirage

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Dec 18

The National Defence Council met this morning at the Elysée Palace, with President Giscard d'Estaing in the chair, to consider a replacement in the 1980s for the French Air Force's Mirage III aircraft.

No final decision was reached, but it appears that the twin-jet Super Mirage or ACF, of which a prototype will start flying tests next summer, is too costly and that the single jet delta wing Mirage 2000, which is much less expensive, will probably be chosen instead.

The ACF on which Dassault has been working for some years, is one of the most advanced combat aircraft in the world, on a par with the American F15 and the Sovier MiG23. Its claims have been strongly urged by the Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

It is a multi-purpose aircraft —reconnaissance, interception and distant penetration. Its two M53 engines constructed by the Snecma, develop a thrust of 8.5 tons, which could be raised to 9.5 tons, and a maximum speed of Mach 2.5.

The aircraft's range would be over 500 kilometres (about 310 miles), extended to 800 kilometres with additional fuel tanks. The cost, however, is almost prohibitive—75m francs (£8.3m) each. The French Air Force requires 100 aircraft.

In addition, the aircraft's high price would make it difficult to export to those countries, notably in Latin America and the Middle East, which will be looking out for replacements to their Mirage IIIs.

There is no question of the Government plumbing for an American replacement such as the F15, and the British-German-Italian MRCA would not meet the interception requirement of the French Air Force. So the decision is likely to go in favour of the Mirage 2000, which is under study by the Dassault firm.

Also equipped with the M53 engine, with a thrust stepped up to 9.8 tons, the Mirage 2000 would, owing to its substantially lighter weight (10 tons as opposed to 21 tons), have much the same multi-purpose role and performance as the Super Mirage for a price of between 50m and 60m francs each.

This would make it accessible to foreign clients, a consideration which appears to have weighed a great deal in today's deliberations.

If the Defence Council decides in its favour, the first prototype could fly in 1977, and production could go into full gear in 1981. The French Air Force, which originally had a requirement of 200 Super Mirages but cut this down to 100 owing to the price, might revert to its original figure. The potential export market is estimated at between 600 and 800 aircraft.

The Mirage 2000 would probably be built jointly by Dassault and the Aerospatiale, the makers of Concorde and the Airbus.



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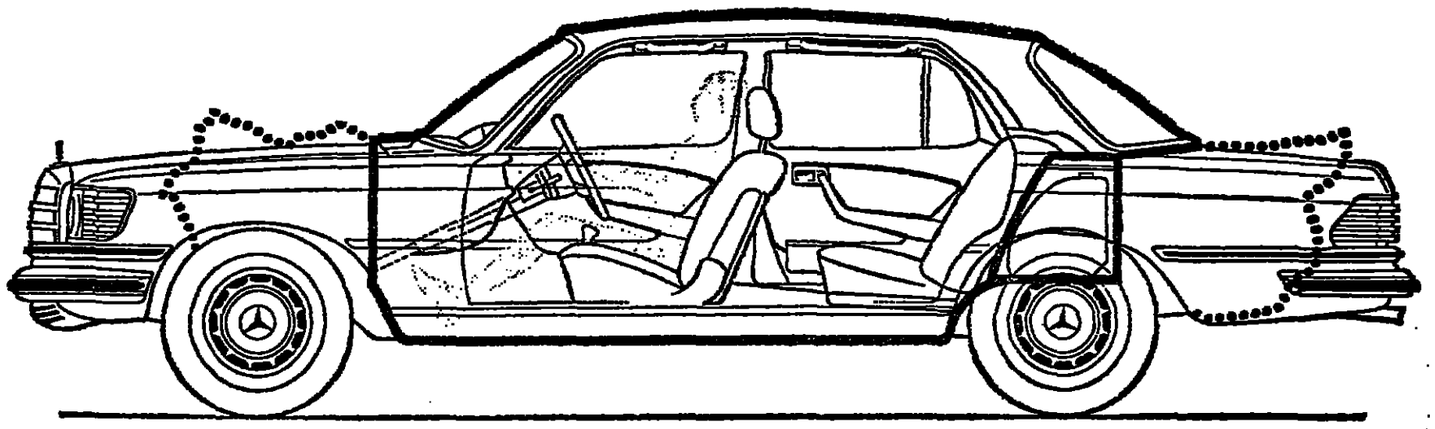
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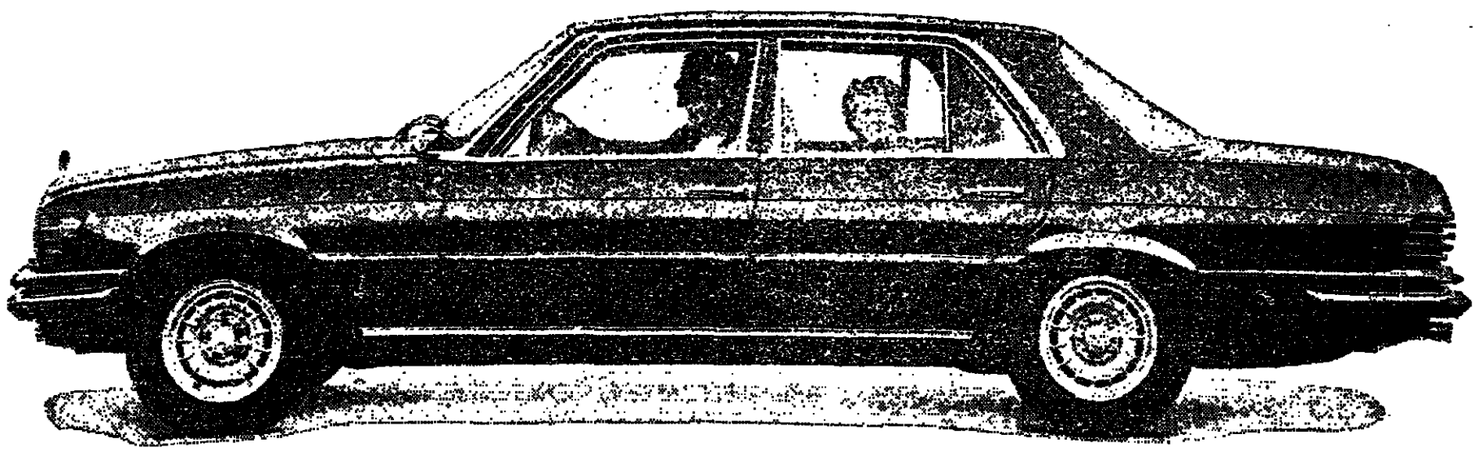
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OVERSEAS

Heavy fighting in Mozambique as Frelimo troops resist attempt to overthrow President Machel

Johannesburg, Dec 18.—Mozambique troops and paramilitary units were battling tonight to crush an uprising by dissident soldiers and police 36 hours after fighting broke out, according to radio reports monitored here. Many casualties and arrests were reported in the capital, Lourenço Marques.

There was no word about whether the fighting had spread to Beira, the second biggest city, which has a history of opposition to the Marxist Frelimo Government.

Mozambique radio said that Army, police and civilians were fighting insurgents, but a promised broadcast by President Machel had not taken place. Tracer bullets soared above the city and there was a constant battle of small arms fire, eyewitnesses reported by telephone.

Fighting broke out at midday yesterday, according to Mozambique radio. It blamed the outbreak on reactionary elements and called it "an attempt to stop the campaign against enemy activities promoting corruption and indiscipline in the armed forces".

This was an apparent reference to a recent purge of the Army and police which, informed observers here believe started the uprising.

Nicholas Ashford writes from Johannesburg:

All telephone and telex communications with Lourenço Marques were severed and few details of the armed uprising were available. However, the rebels, described by the radio as "a band of armed reactionaries in uniform," were identified as African.

The fighting appears to have been started by President Machel's campaign to halt corruption and political agitation within the police and the armed forces. According to reports from the former Portuguese territory, he had ordered the arrest of hundreds of civilians, soldiers and police in an anti-corruption purge.

Some of the accused men and women, who are facing charges ranging from murder and armed robbery to drunkenness and drug addiction, were paraded recently before 5,000 Frelimo supporters attending a rally in Lourenço Marques.

A broadcast report of the rally said the enemies of Mozambique had abandoned the idea of a physical attack from neighbouring countries but were fomenting internal unrest. Their aim was to create "a split between the Government and the masses and between the popular forces and the working classes".

The attempted uprising comes at a time when the Frelimo Government is trying to consolidate its power base within the country. At present Frelimo constitutes only a small minority of the country's nine million population.

At the same time the Government is carrying out revolutionary policies designed to destroy the last vestiges of the former Portuguese colonial rule and set up a completely new socialist society in its place. It is a drastic course of action which has disrupted many people's lives

S Africa has 1,000 men in Angola, Luanda says

Lagos, Dec 18.—Mr Lopo do Nascimento, Prime Minister of the Luanda-based Angolan Government, said today that South Africa had about 1,000 regular troops in Angola and the numbers were rising.

The South African forces were based as far north as the port of Novo Redondo, 420 miles from the border with South-West Africa, he told a press conference here.

Novo Redondo is only 160 miles south of Luanda where the Government formed by the Soviet-backed Popular Movement for the liberation of Angola (MPLA) is based.

Mr do Nascimento, who arrived here yesterday, said the MPLA would accept offers of troops from any friendly African country in view of increased South African involvement.

But he said the Organization of African Unity (OAU) had shown "scandalous passivity" while Angola was being occupied by South Africa and the MPLA would not accept troops offered through the OAU.

Mr do Nascimento paraded two captured South African soldiers at the press conference. They were Corporal Hannes Gerhardus Terblanche, aged 21, and Private Robert Wiehahn, aged 20.

The two South African Army mechanics were part of a recently-infiltrated group of 200 and were captured 600 miles beyond the South-West African border last Sunday, he said. Both men looked in good condition though handcuffed and wearing the unmarked drab clothes in which they were captured.

They both said they had been well treated.

Mr do Nascimento told questioners that the Soviet personnel on the MPLA side were in Angola to establish a Soviet embassy and in connexion with military equipment Moscow was providing.

In Kinshasa, Mr Junas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for Total Independence of Angola (Unita) said South Africa's forces were in Angola against Unita's wishes.

Nicholas Ashford writes from Johannesburg: A demand that South Africa should disengage its forces from the Angolan civil war as quickly as possible is made in a leading article in the *Cape Times* which is to be published in the newspaper tomorrow.

The paper, which alone among the South African press has been consistently critical of the country's involvement in the Angolan conflict, says: "Before this country is to be drawn, in ignorance, into a military and diplomatic quagmire, this is the right moment for the public to ponder South Africa's fortunes. . . . It is a time to call a firm halt and devise ways and means of getting out, not only of foreign involvement but of the threatened diplomatic fiasco."

So far South African reaction to the capture of four of its servicemen by the MPLA, and the implication that the country is far more deeply involved in the war than the Government admits, has been fairly muted.

The Afrikaans press, on the whole, takes a more hawkish attitude towards Angola than do its English counterparts. *Die Burger* said in a leading article this morning that the capture of the four soldiers were scarcely the "shocking propaganda it was intended to be". Compared to the brutal Russian and Cuban intervention, any activity of South Africa or Zaire to protect their own vital interests was in a completely different category.



Corporal Hannes Terblanche, left, and Private Robert Wiehahn at the press conference in Lagos yesterday.

Mr Fraser reduces size of the Cabinet

Canberra, Dec 18. — Mr Malcolm Fraser, the newly-elected Australian Prime Minister, tonight announced a cabinet of 24, including a woman, to head his Liberal-National Country Party Government. He also said there would be a big reshuffle of Government departments, retaining by name only eight of the 27 which operated under the Labour Government of Mr Gough Whitlam.

Seven departments established by Mr Whitlam's administration are to be scrapped. Their functions will be taken over by new, or renamed, departments.

But Mr Fraser, seeking to achieve a working relationship with the trade unions, made clear that he would maintain the Prices Justification Tribunal, a body set up by Labour to adjudicate on price rises sought by business and industry.

During the three-week campaign before Saturday's general election, which produced a landslide victory for the coalition, Mr Fraser announced his firm intention to abolish the tribunal. Trade union leaders immediately said that if this happened there would be a battle between the Government and the unions.

The new Cabinet contains one big surprise—the omission of Mr Don Chipp, aged 50, who was Social Welfare Minister in Mr Fraser's 32-day caretaker administration formed after Mr Whitlam was dismissed by Sir John Kerr, the Governor-General, on November 11.

Mr Chipp was Customs and Excise Minister in Mr William McMahon's Liberal Government until its defeat by Labour in December, 1972, and had held the Navy and Tourism posts in earlier Liberal administrations.

"I'm very disappointed", he said, adding that Australia in its present economic crisis needed good, stable and honest government and he would make sure the Fraser Government "remains good, stable and honest".

Mr Fraser also moved another leading Liberal sideways by naming Senator Ivor Greenwood, Attorney-General in both the McMahon and caretaker Governments, as Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development. Senator Greenwood drew criticism and protests over his prosecution of draft resisters during the Vietnam war.

The new Attorney-General is Mr Robert Ellicott, aged 48, a former Solicitor-General who won a parliamentary seat only last year, but was one of Mr Fraser's closest advisers in the constitutional crisis that led to the election.

The woman minister is Senator Margaret Guilfoyle, who will take the Social Security portfolio.

Mr Douglas Anthony, the National Country Party leader, who is Deputy Prime Minister, becomes Minister for Overseas Trade and National Resources. Other leading Cabinet posts include Mr Andrew Peacock, aged 36, to Foreign Affairs, the post he held in the McMahon Government, and Mr Philip Lynch, aged 42, the Liberal Party's deputy leader, as Treasurer.

Mr Fraser said there would be an inner Cabinet which would decide the Government's chief policies. These 12 ministers are:

Prime Minister: Mr Malcolm Fraser.
National Resources and Overseas Trade: Mr Douglas Anthony.
Treasury: Mr Philip Lynch.
Primary Industry: Mr Ian Sinclair.
Administrative Services: Senator Reginald Withers.
Environment, Housing and Community Development: Senator Ivor Greenwood.
Industry and Commerce: Senator Robert Cotton.
Employment and Industrial Relations: Mr Anthony Street.
Transport: Mr Peter Nixon.
Education and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister in Federal Affairs: Senator John Carrick.
Foreign Affairs: Mr Andrew Peacock.
Defence: Mr Jim Killen.
Other ministers are:
Social Security: Senator Margaret Guilfoyle.
Attorney-General: Mr Robert Ellicott, QC.
Business and Consumer Affairs: Mr John Howard.
Postal and Telecommunications: Mr Victor Garland.
Health: Mr Ralph Hunt.
Immigration and Ethnic Affairs: Mr Michael Mackellar.
Northern Territory: Mr Albert Adermann.
Aboriginal Affairs: Mr Robert Viner.
Capital Territory: Mr Eric Robinson.
Construction: Mr John McLeay.
Repatriation: Mr Kevin Newman.
Science: Senator James Webster.
—Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Compromise sought at Paris talks

From Richard Wigg, Roger Vielvoye and David Blake
Paris, Dec 18

The conference on international economic cooperation was tonight moving towards an inconclusive end without agreement by the ministers on the central question of guidelines for the four commissions set up to carry on its work.

Nine of the participants, all chairmen of the various commissions, are likely to meet again in January in an effort to reach agreement. The commissions—on energy, raw materials, development and finance—are expected to start work in early February.

Most of today was spent in separate meetings of the developing and industrialized blocks. The 19 developing and oil-producing states were in almost continuous session, trying to agree on a common position.

As at the preparatory conference here in October, the Algerians insist that precise and inter-related tasks for the commissions should be agreed at the present meeting. They have found it difficult to persuade their partners. There seemed to be signs that the unity of oil producers and developing nations has been strained over the past few days.

The industrialized group is basically in favour of the co-chairmen reconvening in late January.

The situation bears a remarkable similarity to the closing sessions of the preparatory meeting, when both sides spent days looking for a compromise before pushing the problem on to their ministers. Those ministers, or at least those who are still here, may now push that problem on to the co-chairmen.

These are from Canada and Venezuela (co-chairmen of the ministerial conference); the United States and Saudi Arabia (energy); EEC and Algeria (development); Japan and Peru (raw materials), and EEC and Iran (finance).

The conference is meeting in full session this evening for the first time since yesterday afternoon to try to approve the compromise position that any country can raise any topic it wishes in the commissions. Even if they succeed there are still a number of other problems to resolve.

Smith minister gives black rule warning

From Our Correspondent
Salisbury, Dec 18

A senior Rhodesian Government minister has come out strongly against any handover to African majority rule in the foreseeable future. Mr Mark Partridge, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources and a founder member of the ruling Rhodesian Front, told his Salisbury constituents that he would not be a party to a handover, which would be in nobody's interest. He believed that his fellow Rhodesian Front MPs agreed.

Mr Partridge said any solution to the constitutional issue reached in the talks between Mr Ian Smith, the Prime Minister, and Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the internal faction of the African National Council (ANC) would not give control to an African majority.

He disagreed with gloomy predictions about Rhodesia's future if there were no handover. He believed communications with South Africa would remain open and there was no reason why the present economic battle should be lost. Rhodesia would win the guerrilla war.

The Government was running the country with justice for all. Medical and educational facilities were second to none and all races were getting a fair deal. "There is no country in Africa that has such a proud record", he said.

"Our only offence in the eyes of the world is that we do not subscribe to the modern fallacy that democracy is the only moral form of government. In all African states to the north that form of government had inevitably and almost immediately led to dictatorship and a loss of liberty."

This tough conservative line from a man regarded as a liberal within the Rhodesian Front follows the public meeting in Salisbury earlier this week at which a thousand whites supported the demand by three extreme right-wing groups that a referendum must be held on any possible agreement reached by Mr Nkomo.

Although Mr Partridge dissociates himself from those groups, his views reflect a growing concern among the 273,000 whites over a possible deal by Mr Smith that would see Mr Nkomo or some other black nationalist in power in a very few years.

Chile sets 164 free but omits Dr Cassidy

Santiago, Dec 18.—The name of Dr Sheila Cassidy was not among those read out by President Augusto Pinochet of Chile today when he ordered the immediate release of 164 people detained for giving aid and comfort to fugitive left-wing guerrillas. Four of those to be freed are Roman Catholic priests.

Despite protests from the British Government, Dr Cassidy is still being held in the Tres Alamos detention centre here. She was arrested on November 1 in a police raid on a religious centre where she had been giving medical treatment to a wounded leader of the Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MIR), Señor Nelson Gutierrez.

Señor Gutierrez is now in the Papal Nunciature (Vatican Embassy) here and another MIR leader, Señor Andres Pascal Allende, nephew of the late President, has taken refuge in the Costa Rican Embassy.

Earlier today a military court martial board upheld a military judge's decision last month that Dr Cassidy could not be tried for helping Señor Gutierrez to escape and seek political asylum. Her lawyer argued that she "had committed a fault and not a crime" in not advising the authorities that she had given the wanted man medical aid.—Reuter and UPI.

Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: The Chilean Ambassador, Rear-Admiral Kaore Olsen, was called to the Foreign Office in London yesterday for the fifth time about Dr Cassidy's continued detention. In the strongest protest yet made, he was informed by Mr Edward Rowlands, Parliamentary Under Secretary, that further delay in consideration of her case would be regarded as "inexcusable and unacceptable".

British relations with Kampala back to normal

Diplomatic relations between Britain and Uganda have been restored to normal after more than three years.

Mr James Hennessy, acting British High Commissioner in Kampala, is to be High Commissioner. Uganda's acting High Commissioner in London has also been nominated High Commissioner.

Relations deteriorated in 1972 when President Amin expelled more than 20,000 Asians who held British passports. Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, visited Kampala last summer.

Lisbon offer to UN on Timor

New York, Dec 18.—Portugal offered in the United Nations Security Council today to send its troops back to East Timor under United Nations sponsorship and to maintain peace in the territory until its people have determined their own future.

Senhor José Manuel Galvao Teles, the Portuguese representative, called for the withdrawal of Indonesian forces from East Timor and an Indonesian pledge of non-interference in the affairs of the territory.—UPI.

Solzhenitsyn US citizenship move now a dead letter

From Fred Emery
Washington, Dec 18

The proposal in the United States Congress to grant Alexander Solzhenitsyn honorary American citizenship is now virtually a dead letter, congressional sources confirmed today.

Last March, the Senate passed its half of the enabling resolution, but the matter lies "pending" before the House of Representatives judiciary subcommittee. No hearings are set.

No disrespect is intended. The fact is that the majority on Capitol Hill understands that the gift of citizenship is extremely rare and precious, having been granted by Congress only once—to Sir Winston Churchill (Lafayette got his another way).

The State Department expressed its opposition in a letter to the House as long ago as July 7, when Mr Solzhenitsyn was in the country and Dr Kissinger, Secretary of State, was advising President Ford not to receive him in order not to upset détente.

Senior State Department officers insist there was no connexion between protecting détente and denying honorary citizenship, even though the dates coincide.

The point, as explained to me today by Mr Robert McCloskey, who signed the letter as assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, is that the lone grant to Churchill makes the whole thing "quite unique and extraordinary".

Perhaps the most telling point in the State Department letter came in this passage: "The rationale is to be seen in the depth, vitality and intensity of an individual's commitment to the United States and the principles for which it stands".

The letter went on: "There is no evidence however that Solzhenitsyn, albeit an eloquent and courageous international personality, has made such a contribution or commitment or even desires to do so.

"In fact there is some indication that his rebellion against despotism does not embody an endorsement of the American way of life. This in no way diminishes our respect . . .

The House committee having accepted that view, it is clear that unless some overpowering popular pressure arises, the matter will rest, as now, a partial gesture.

Mr Bush obliged to quit politics as head of CIA

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Dec 18

Mr George Bush's nomination as director of the Central Intelligence Agency seemed assured of Senate approval today after President Ford ceded to political pressure and gave a written undertaking that he would not consider Mr Bush as his vice-presidential candidate next year.

Had Mr Bush been chosen as the Republican candidate, the badly shaken CIA would have had to seek another new director within six months.

His nomination has been approved by 12-4 in the Senate armed services committee. Mr Bush still needs confirmation by the full Senate before he can succeed Mr William Colby.

Mr Bush was a Congressman, an amiable but forgettable representative at the United Nations, and head of the American mission in Peking.

Castro account of plots amuses party

Havana, Dec 18.—Dr Fidel Castro, the Cuban Prime Minister, drew laughter from the Cuban Communist Party congress today when he described elaborate plots by the United States Central Intelligence Agency to murder or discredit him. It was his first public comment on the CIA plots disclosed by an American Senate investigation.

Dr Castro described the publication of the results of the American Senate committee investigation of CIA activities as a "positive step".

There were smiles among the three thousand delegates and 85 foreign delegations when Dr Castro spoke of a CIA scheme to expose him to ridicule by poisoning his cigars with a drug which would cause disorientation before he delivered a speech. Many burst into laughter when he told of a powder which was supposed to be spread on his boots to make his beard fall out.—Reuter.

In brief

Uganda Cabinet member held

Nairobi, Dec 18.—Uganda's Director of Planning and Economic Development, Mr John Kabanda, a member of the Cabinet, and Mr George Magezi, managing director of the state-owned Uganda Textiles Board, have been arrested on the orders of the Anti-Corruption Committee, it was announced in Kampala.

Other senior officials including Cabinet ministers were likely to be arrested, it was said. Large sums of money had been illegally exported.

Nightclub gutted

New York, Dec 18.—With seven known to be dead, firemen searched the charred interior of the Blue Angel club off Park Avenue to see if people who went back for coats may also have perished in a blaze early today.

Editor murdered

Casablanca, Dec 18.—Omar Benjelloun, editor of the daily paper, El Mauharrir, and a leader of the left-wing Socialist Union of Popular Forces in Morocco, was beaten to death with an iron bar outside his hom today.

Fragile ceasefire

Beirut, Dec 18.—Outbursts of shooting in and round Beirut, in which at least two bystanders were killed, hampered efforts to clear the streets of gunmen as the authorities tried to enforce the new ceasefire begun on Monday.

Journalist stabbed

Mr Uri Avnerian, Israel magazine editor who advocates the establishment of an Arab Palestinian state alongside Israel, was stabbed today at his home in Tel Aviv. He was taken to hospital.

Breaking away

Castries, St Lucia, Dec 18.—St Lucia announced officially that it will seek full independence from Britain.

There are a number of ways to join the great cider revival.



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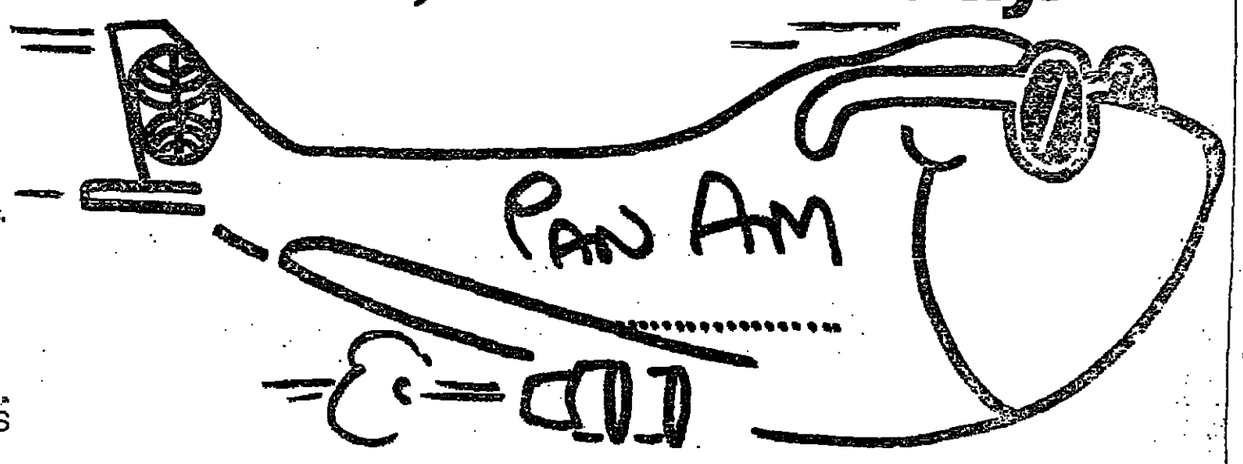
Your Room.
Your return flight plus seven nights in a shared double room with its own private bathroom (a single room will cost a little more) will cost you £374 in San Francisco (Bedford); £225 in Washington (Mid Town Inn); £165 in New York (Century Paramount). And in most cities, you can choose between three grades of hotel. There's also the Roosevelt from £225 and the Waldorf Astoria from £237 in New York.

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West Bank worried by 'brain drain'

rom Eric Marsden
erusalem, Dec 18

Alarmed by a drain of brain nd muscle across the Jordan ridges, West Bank municipal ud commercial leaders are ppealing to the Arab states for elp to check the flow. It is timated that, in the past four onths, 1,700 professionals and illed workers, and several ousands more building orkers and other labourers, ve taken jobs in Jordan, Iraq, udi Arabia and the Gulf nirates.

Arab leaders are worried par-ularly about the sudden loss doctors. As a result of an vertisement in an Amman wspaper by the Chief Medical ficer of Abu Dhabi, on behalf the Gulf States, more than 0 West Bank doctors crossed e bridge. Another 30 have me in the past two weeks.

The phenomenon is caused a combination of Israel's pressed economic state and e boom in the Arab countries, ich has caused a demand for illed and unskilled labour. any of the Arab workers who re tempted by high wages Israel's building trade, which now under Government straint, are travelling in the posite direction.

The Arab Federation of ambers of Commerce in the est Bank said that thousands jobs had been created by e Saudi Arabian development an, for which $5,000m 2,500m) had been allocated. Jordan's five-year plan and nilar ones in the emirates.

As a result, civil and electri-l engineers, surveyors, aughtsmen and other skilled orkers and craftsmen on the est Bank were being made fers of four or five times eir present salaries plus hous-g and, in some cases, cars. Doctors, who were being paid etween £150 and £220 a month the West Bank military gov-nment, of which nearly 40 per nt was subject to tax and the st was eaten up by soaring ices, could earn between £700 d £1,200 a month at the ficial exchange rate in Abu abi. At black market rates, is money is worth 30 per nt more. Labourers were also le to earn four times the net age they received in Israel.

The Arabs leaving the West ank are given one-year exit sas by Israel. They are mainly eople who have qualified in a ade or profession since the 67 war with Israel.

Older ones, who were in gov-nment service before the 1967 ar, still receive pay from ordan as well as from the rael authorities.

The departure of so many oung educated Palestinians is ausing concern for political, conomic and social reasons to rab leaders. Those with ationalist ambitions fear the Vest Bank may be losing men ctive in the campaign for a alestinian state.

The shortage of engineers and raftsmen is being felt in the owns. The Jordan electricity ompany is having difficulty in inding replacements for two lectrical engineers who have one to work on the new joint lectricity system being set up y Jordan and Syria.

An Arab complained: "We arely have any weddings now-days. When we do, it is always local girl marrying a man vho has come over from Jordan or the ceremony and will be aking his bride back

Walk-out in Unesco after Zionism vote

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Dec 18

The EEC countries, the United States, Israel, Australia and Canada, today walked out of a Unesco intergovernmental conference of experts on the role of communications media, after a decision to brand Zionism as a form of racialism. The text of the resolution, which followed closely the one adopted last month by the United Nations, defined Zionism as a "form of racism and racial discrimination".

The decision was carried by 36 votes to 22 with seven abstentions, including Japan.

Mr Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, director-general of Unesco, said in a radio interview today that it was wrong to identify the decision of the conference of experts with an official position of Unesco. "It is only when the executive council of the general conference has studied this draft declaration that one will be able to talk of a Unesco decision", he said.

It would be premature to say anything about the attitude of the organization at this stage. "I consider that it is uncalled for, when the authors of this proposal attempted to present it as a compromise between divergent viewpoints, to represent it as a stand of Unesco against any country whatever", he said.

The resolution was the subject of heated discussions in the lobbies. Attempts to agree on a text which called on all media to combate racialism, without mention of its separate manifestations or of Zionism, were unsuccessful. The text agreed finally referred specifically to the resolution voted by the United Nations General Assembly on November 10.

Mr Ibrahim Souss, of the Palestine Liberation Organization, said after the vote that it was "an additional contribution of the international community to a just and durable peace in which the rights of all peoples in the area are respected".

The American delegation sent a letter to the chairman of the experts' conference saying that the identification of Zionism with racialism was "unacceptable".

Law Report December 18 1975 — Chancery Division

Liquidator's payment of rent arrears not deductible

Emmerson (Inspector of Taxes) v Computer Time International Ltd (in liquidation)

Before Mr Justice Fox

A payment made by a liquidator in respect of arrears of rent, accruing after the date of the winding up of the tenant company, to the landlord in order to obtain his consent to assign the lease, was not a payment made for the purpose of "enhancing the value of an asset" within the meaning of paragraph 4(1)(b) of Schedule 6 to the Finance Act, 1965. Further, paragraph 5(2) of Schedule 6 operated to exclude the company from relief in respect of that payment in computing the chargeable gains arising on the disposal of the lease. His Lordship so held in allowing an appeal by the Crown from the special commissioners who had upheld the company's claim for relief in respect of the payment.

The taxpayer company was incorporated in 1969 to carry on the business of hiring computer time. It occupied, under an agreement for a 21-year lease, first floor premises in Oxford Street, London, at an agreed annual rental of £16,000. Also, by an underlease, it became the tenant of premises on the second floor of the building at an annual rent of £19,000. It spent a considerable amount of money on computer equipment to convert the premises for its business purposes.

The business was not a success and was voluntarily wound up in April, 1970. At the time it was in arrears with the payments of rent. On the condition that the arrears would be paid by the liquidator in full, the landlord agreed to the assignments to new tenants of the leasehold interests in the premises. On completion of the assignments the liquidator received £93,155 from the new tenant and paid £14,668 to the landlord in respect of arrears of rent. Of that sum £6,131 was attributable to rent in respect of a period after the company was wound up.

The special commissioners allowed an appeal by the taxpayer company against an assessment to profits chargeable to corporation tax in £22,352 on the basis that £6,131 was deductible as being expenditure incurred on enhancing the value of the assets disposed of by virtue of paragraph 4 (1) (b) of Schedule 6 to the Income Tax Act, 1965.

Mr Peter Gibson for the Crown: Mr Peter Whiteman for the taxpayer company.

MR JUSTICE FOX said that the question was whether certain payments made by a company in liquidation were deductible in computing chargeable gains arising on disposal of the company's leaseholds.

The relevant enactments were in Schedule 6 to the Finance Act, 1965. Paragraph 4 (1) provided that "... the sums allowable as a deduction from the consideration in the computation under this Schedule of the gain accruing to a person on the disposal of an asset shall be restricted to ... (b) the amount of any expenditure wholly and exclusively incurred ... for the purpose of enhancing the value of the asset, being expenditure reflected in the state or nature of the asset at the time of the disposal, and any expenditure ... in establishing, preserving or defending his title to, or a right over, the asset".

Paragraph 5 (2) said that "... there shall be excluded from the sums allowable ... as a deduction in the computation under this Schedule any expenditure which, if the assets ... were ... used as part of the fixed capital of a trade the profits or gains of which were ... chargeable to income tax would be allowable as a deduction in computing the profits or gains or losses of the trade for the purposes of income tax".

The Crown contended (i) that although the landlord could not have sued for the arrears but only proved in the liquidation, the payment of £6,131 was properly made by the liquidator as rent; (ii) that rent could not be described as expenditure incurred for the purpose of enhancing the value of an asset; and (iii) alternatively, the payment would, on the hypothesis stated in paragraph 5(2), be allowable as a deduction in computing the profits of the hypothetical trade and was therefore not allowable in computing the gains on the disposal of the asset.

As to the first contention, the rent in question was payable in advance and was due prior to the commencement of the liquidation. The payment was properly made and was a payment of rent. Further, if the risk of forfeiture under the lease for non-payment was to be removed the rent had to be paid in full.

Turning to the Crown's second contention, his Lordship agreed that it was not apt to describe the payment of arrears of rent as expenditure on "enhancing the value of the asset". No doubt in order to realize the full market value of the lease the company had to pay off the arrears. Such payment was simply a liability inherent in the asset itself. It could be that the payment was incurred in "preserving" the company's title to the asset. Without deciding that point, his Lordship would assume that was so and that accordingly the company could have brought itself within the provisions of paragraph 4(1)(b).

Paragraph 5 (2) required the court to assume that the lease was held as part of the fixed capital of the trade and that the profits and gains of such trade were chargeable to income tax. The question was whether, bearing those assumptions in mind, the expenditure would be allowable as a deduction in computing the profits and gains for the purposes of income tax.

If a lease was part of the fixed capital of a trade, a payment of rent made in accordance with the covenants in the lease was clearly allowable as a deduction in computing the profits and gains. In the present case the payment was made with a view to selling the asset in circumstances when the full amount could not be recovered from the company by action on the covenant. It was, however, still a payment of rent.

On behalf of the company it was contended that where a payment which would otherwise be regarded as a revenue payment was effectively the purchase price of a capital interest, that payment acquired a capital quality and would therefore not be deductible in a trading computation: *Littlewoods Mail Order Stores v McGregor* ([1969] 1 WLR 1241) and *IRC v Land Securities Investment Trust* ([1969] 1 WLR 604). Those cases, however, concerned the acquisition of new assets. But here no new asset was acquired by the company. In those particular circumstances the payment was not turned into a capital payment.

Thus, assuming that the lease was part of the fixed capital of a trade, the payment made by the liquidator was a payment of rent in respect of that lease. Such a payment of rent was allowable as a deduction in computing the profits of that trade. Accordingly the payment fell within the prohibition in paragraph 5 (2) and was therefore not allowable as a deduction on the disposal. The appeal would be allowed.

By agreement, the Crown did not ask for costs.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Kingsley, Napley & Co.

Queen's Bench Division

No attempted theft from empty wallet

Partington v Williams

Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Park and Mr Justice May

A woman who intended to steal money from a wallet which contained none could not be convicted of an attempt to steal money, the Divisional Court decided when quashing her conviction.

Their Lordships, in a reserved judgment, allowed an appeal by Jacqueline Marie Partington, of Wrexham, from her conviction by Clwyd justices of attempting to steal money from a wallet in a drawer in the offices where she was a clerk.

Mr Nigel Fricker for the defendant: Mr Alex Carlile and Miss Marie Catterson for the police prosecutor, Aled Williams.

MR JUSTICE MAY said that the defendant took the wallet and looked into it to see if it contained any money. She had the intention of stealing money from the wallet and would have done so if there had been any in it. The wallet contained no money.

Mr Fricker contended that the views of the House of Lords in *R v Smith (Roger)* ([1975] AC 476) on the more general principles of law applicable were not strictly necessary for their Lordships' decision; the stolen goods returned to lawful custody could not be the subject of the offence of attempting to handle stolen goods. His Lordship, however, was satisfied that, in so far as the speeches in that case dealt with the general principles involved, as they did extensively, they were not obiter.

It was no longer necessary to go back to the older cases and try and choose between them when considering the basic question *arising in the present case*. They and many others were all considered by the House in *Smith* and one did not need now to look farther than the speeches in that case.

It was now settled law that, on the facts of the present case, the defendant could not be convicted of the attempted theft of money because the commission of the *substantive offence was in the* circumstances impossible. As Lord Reid said in *Smith*, "The theory (that there can be an attempt to commit an offence although that offence could not itself be committed) confuses attempt with intent".

His Lordship would merely add two further comments. Each case had to be decided on its own facts in accordance with the basic principles laid down in *Smith*. Although it might be helpful in a given case to seek to place it in one or other of the categories adopted by Mr Justice Turner in *R v Donnelly* ([1970] NZLR 980) Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone in *Smith* deprecated too much analysis of cases in that way and both Lord Reid and Lord Morris of Borth-y-Gest doubted whether it was possible or desirable to set out any complete classification or to give any exhaustive definition of what amounted to an attempt to commit a crime.

In so far as the facts were concerned, it was to be remembered that the burden of proof remained throughout on the prosecution. In the present case, where the offence charged was an attempt to steal money, the prosecution had to prove that there was money in the wallet to steal. There would still have had to be an acquittal of that offence *if*, when all the evidence had been led, the justices or a jury were not satisfied what the wallet did contain.

Although the justices had considered the various contentions put before them with great care, they had come to the wrong decision. The appeal should be allowed and the conviction quashed.

Mr Justice Park and the Lord Chief Justice agreed.

An order was made for payment of the defendant's costs out of central funds.

Solicitors: Cyril Jones & Co, Wrexham; Gwilym Hughes & Partners, Wrexham.

Justices' inherent power to amend

Regina v Newcastle-upon-Tyne Justices, Ex parte John Bryce (Contractors) Ltd

Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Park and Mr Justice May

Inherent in the powers of justices within their jurisdiction is the power to amend. It is discretionary and has to be exercised so as to do justice to both the prosecution and the defence. But the Lord Chief Justice said that he would not wish prosecuting authorities to think that any licence was available to them to disregard the rules and hope that their troubles could be corrected by amendment at the hearing.

The Divisional Court refused an application by John Bryce (Contractors) Ltd, of Edinburgh, for an order of certiorari to quash their conviction by Newcastle-upon-Tyne justices of "using" an overloaded lorry on a road, contrary to regulation 142(1)(b) of the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations, 1973, and section 40(5) of the Road Traffic Act, 1972, and an order prohibiting the justices from allowing the prosecutor's application at the hearing to amend the charge against the company from "permitting" their driver to use the lorry to "using" the lorry themselves.

Mr R. A. Percy for the company. Neither the prosecutor nor the justices appeared or were represented.

MR JUSTICE MAY said that, having regard to the nature of the company's defence, the prosecutor took the view that the justices might not be satisfied about the offence of "permitting" and the justices' leave was obtained to charge the offence merely of "using" the vehicle on the road contrary to the regulations.

The date of the alleged offence was May 14, 1974, the information was laid on November 13, just within the six months' period limited by the provision in section 104 of the Magistrates' Courts Act, 1952, that "... a magistrates' court shall not try an information ... unless the information was laid ... within six months of the time when the offence was committed ...". The hearing was on January 25, 1975.

Before their Lordships Mr Percy contended that the justices ought not to have permitted the amendment outside the six-month limitation period so as to allege a separate, different offence from that laid in the information. He distinguished an amendment to vary details or facts from one to charge a different offence, in view of the wide words of section 100(1) that "no objection shall be allowed to any information ... for any defect in it in substance or in form, or for any variance between it and the evidence adduced by the prosecutor ... at the hearing ...". Section 100(2) provided for an adjournment if the defendant was misled by any such variance.

His Lordship said that, in so far as amendment was concerned, he had no doubt that there was inherent in the powers of justices within their jurisdiction the power to amend. It was a discretionary power which had to be exercised so as to do justice both to the prosecution and to the defence.

The extremely wide words of section 100 had been referred to in *Garfield v Maddocks* ([1974] QB 7).

The six-month provision was to ensure that summary offences were charged and tried as soon as reasonably possible after the alleged commission of the offences, so that the recollection of witnesses might still be reasonably clear and there should not be any unnecessary delay in the disposal of summary business by justices.

The power to amend an information, which was inherent in their jurisdiction, had to be exercised judicially and so as to do justice between the parties. Where it could be so exercised—where an information could be amended, even to allege a separate offence but so that no real injustice was done to either the prosecution or in particular in those circumstances to the defence—there was no reason why the justices had no power so to amend the information, even though the amendment was ordered after the six months' period from the commission of the offence.

The prosecution in the present case had served notice of the facts with the information and sought in no material way to depart from them. In accordance with *Ross Hillman Ltd v Bond* ([1974] QB 435) they considered that the facts substantiated the using offence and might not substantiate the permitting offence. On the facts there was no defence for the company.

The justices were fully entitled, within the exercise of their jurisdiction, to allow the amendment and to continue the hearing on the charge of using. The application should be refused.

Mr Justice Park agreed.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, also agreeing, said that he would not wish prosecuting authorities to think that any licence was available to them to disregard the rules and hope that their troubles could be corrected by amendment at the hearing. On the other hand, in the present case, the facts of the two competing offences were really identical. The justices could hardly have reasonably come to any conclusion other than that the amendment permitted should have been permitted.

Solicitors: Sharpe, Pritchard & Co for Watson Burton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Tribute to judge

When Sir Anthony Plowman, Vice-Chancellor since October, 1974, retired from the Bench, among those who gathered in his court to wish him well was his pupil master of 45 years ago, Sir Ronald Roxburgh, who himself was once a Chancery judge.

It was a great pleasure for a judge to see his former pupil master present on such an occasion, Sir Anthony said in thanking the Bar and all those behind the scenes who had made his 15 years on the Bench such happy years.

Almost all the Chancery judges were present, and the well of the court was filled with members of the Chancery Bar and other counsel and court officials. Mr B. L. Bathurst, QC, paying tribute to Sir Anthony, on behalf of the Bar, said that he was one of the judges before whom counsel always enjoyed appearing—win or lose. The Bar would sadly miss his charm and understanding.

Church news

Appointments:

The Rev J. M. Dry, priest-in-charge of Knight's Enham, diocese of Winchester, to be rector.

The Rev T. M. Rhodes, curate of St Leonard's, Padiham, diocese of Blackburn, to be priest-in-charge of St Oswald's, Preston, same diocese.

Diocese of Bristol

The Rev B. Raven, curate of Henbury, to be priest-in-charge under suspense of presentation of South Marston with Stanton Fitzwarren.

The Rev R. H. D. Blake, Vicar of Purton, to be acting Rural Dean of Cricklade.

Diocese of Liverpool

The Rev J. Cooke, curate of St Ann's, Rainhill, to be Vicar of St Thomas's, Eccleston.

The Rev W. H. Harrington, Vicar of St Michael's, Ditton, to be Vicar of St Barnabas's, Mossley Hill.

The Rev D. R. Leslie, curate of St Giles', Cripplegate, diocese of London, to be Team Vicar of St Chad's, Kirkby.

Diocese of Rochester

The Rev H. J. M. Bury, Vicar of Ryarsh with Birling, to be also priest-in-charge of Addington with Trottiscliffe.

The Rev G. H. Spencer, curate of Bexley, to be priest-in-charge of St John's, Bromley.

Diocese of Southwell

The Rev R. G. Lacey, Vicar of Rolleston with Fiskerton and Morton, to be full-time secretary, Diocesan Board for Social Action, attached St Mary the Virgin, Nottingham.

The Rev P. R. Allin, chaplain to Sutton Centre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, to be Rector of All Hallows, Ordsall.

Retirement

The Rev N. A. T. Mackie, Rector of St Ebba's, Eyemouth, on April 1.

SPORT

The Canadian skiers' ascent to the Alpine peak of achievement

When the only course is downhill

Nothing, it seems, could be simpler than the Canadian skiers' ascent to the Alpine peak of achievement. As expounded by their coach, Scott Henderson, a 32-year-old former Olympic skier from Banff, there was only one course open to him when he assumed command of the team four years ago after the 1972 Winter Olympics at Sapporo, Japan.

Given a limited number of skiers of the required ability to call on, he decided that rather than attempting to produce all-round racers—a difficult enough exercise in these specialist times—he would concentrate on the downhill. He judged, correctly as we now know, that it would be easier to reach a reasonably elevated place in the start list in that event than in the giant slalom and especially the slalom.

In ski racing, as a general principle, one's position in the starting order is based on one's previous results. Beginners in the two slaloms are handicapped to a much greater extent than in the downhill, where course deterioration is much less marked. Furthermore, there are always fewer runners in the downhill, which calls for an exceptional degree of courage. In the World Cup meeting at Madonna di Campiglio, Italy, where we met last week, for example, there were 107 competitors in the giant slalom and only 52 in the downhill. Show me, he said in so many words, a good skier with guts and I'll show you a potential champion.

He demanded something else—a willingness to work. Thus, his team had undergone an unusually gruelling preparation in Argentina during our summer. Gamesmanship, incidentally, also played its part there. Conditions in Argentina were ideal but reports came back to Europe (not from Henderson) to the effect that the *Andes were troubled by* avalanches and all the ski lifts were closed. Austria, for one, stayed at home and made the best of poor conditions on Alpine glaciers.

Henderson's basic philosophy was (and is) that a downhill racer could be converted into a passable slalom skier but it was rare for the reverse to happen. Of modern skiers he could think of only one, Gustavo Thoeni, Italian holder of the World Cup, who had successfully graduated from slalom to downhill.

Even so, Henderson could scarcely believe his own luck when one of his men, Kenneth Read, won the first downhill of the season at Val d'Isere a fortnight ago with his compatriots also high up in the finishing order. Henderson recalls that Read ran first on that occasion and, half way up the hill, Henderson noted with growing disbelief, as skier after skier came and went, that their midway times foreshadowed a resounding Canadian victory.



Airborne at 60 mph: Kenneth Read who won the first downhill of the season a fortnight ago.

The Canadian team operates on a shoestring and it was not until his fifth and last man went down that Henderson himself could go impatiently to the bottom and join in the riotous celebration. The importance of this victory, he says, is that it has removed a psychological block. Read knows he is a winner now and so, Henderson says, do all the others since they can all, on their day, beat Read in training.

As a generalization I would have my doubts about Jim Hunter, the oldest member of the team, or David Miller, the youngest, winning an Olympic medal at Innsbruck in February. It would not be any surprise, however, if any one of the other three—David Irwin, David Murray and Stephen Podborski—were to emulate Read on the occasion when it most matters. Irwin, for instance, has already recorded two fourth places (with two number four start numbers) in two races.

The Canadian team is accompanied by a staff of only three—a physiotherapist, Henderson, who is both coach and team trainer and Patricia (called Sully) Henderson, his wife. When Henderson was appointed he made it a condition, then only a year into his marriage, that his wife would be allowed to accompany him on his travels on Canada's behalf.

The first year she was a decorative supernumerary (together they make a handsome couple) but as the requirement of a Jill-of-all-trades became apparent, particularly in operating a video machine in order to record runs for future analysis. Sully was taken on.

I cannot answer for how matters stood before the team reached Europe but today they exhibit an extraordinary degree of comradeship, enhanced no doubt by their successes since arriving. If there is an odd man out (and there is) he is Jim Hunter, otherwise known as Jungle Jim as a tribute, if that is the right word, to his general huskiness and style of skiing. His future, he says, lies in evangelism and he has a personal guide with him, a theological tutor who ministers to his spiritual needs before every race and at other times of need.

Perhaps it should be added that Hunter, a member of the team before Henderson was appointed, is the man most in need of support since he suffers from nerves far more than his fellows. "He's great in training," Henderson says, "but can't produce the same form in a race." The Canadian style of ski racing is such that if one lacks courage beyond the normal expectation, one might as well take up tiddly-winks or its Canadian equivalent.

Their theory of downhill, not uncommon among some other top racers now, is that one must attack ceaselessly. Where only a few years ago, Henderson reasons, it was accepted that certain parts of any downhill course required caution, the Canadians feel one must be in a racing crouch almost from the gate and hold it, come what may. That is, they say, the only way to win these days though there may be other ways of achieving a respectable position. In any case, given a team of dare-devils (which they are), it is likely that at least one of them will survive to stir the blood at the *ziel* at Innsbruck.

But ski-racing, Henderson said, was not always the glamorous pursuit it sometimes appeared. It called, too, for dedication and an aptitude to while away the tiresome hours in between racing and training and an acceptance of long, often hazardous, car journeys from alp to alp, dolomite to dolomite.

He calculated that during the week at Madonna di Campiglio his team had had six runs on both the downhill and giant slalom courses, substantially the same piste, which in all was less than half an hour's skiing. I gathered that the longueurs were almost as demanding as the racing. Self-discipline is important, if not vital.

Later, to find a more rounded view of Henderson, I talked at some length to Lyn McIntosh, the chief coach to the women's team, at Cortina d'Ampezzo. He had nothing but praise not only for Henderson but also for Al Raine (husband of the illustrious Nancy Green) who had had the faith and foresight to put Henderson in the hot seat. McIntosh filled in another important piece in the jig-saw with the revelation that early season conditions in Canada favoured straight downhill running.

Rocky Mountain snow was drier than the European variety and, resistent to packing, made the preparation of slalom pistes difficult. McIntosh describes skiing as an ego-trip and for the Canadians there was only one way to race—"to go for broke". Henderson himself can speak from personal experience of the risks. He broke a leg at Megève in 1969.

John Hennessy

Cricket

Holding may not be fit for third Test

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Adelaide, Dec 18

With the third Test match between Australia and West Indies starting in Melbourne in only eight days' time there is some doubt as to whether Michael Holding, the new West Indian fast bowler, will be fit to play. On the last morning of the second Test match he limped off the field with a groin strain, and with so much of the series still left, the West Indians will be careful to take no chances with Holding's fitness, especially on anything as slow as the Melbourne pitch.

The way in which Holding has come into the picture over the last month is remarkable. When he arrived in Australia at the end of October he had taken only 16 first class wickets, of which 13 had been bowled, two leg-before, and one caught at the wicket. The first slip catch he ever had taken off him in a first class match was on November 15 at Sydney. When MCC saw him in West Indies, playing for the President's XI at Bridgetown, at the start of the tour of 1973-74 (a largely unknown fast bowler, by the name of Roberts was his partner then, which speaks well for the judgment of the West Indian selectors) he was unimpressive. He was chosen for that match on the strength of having bowled Redpath out three times when the Australians were in West Indies in 1972-73. In West Indies last season (1974-75) Holding met with little success. But it was decided to bring him to Australia for the experience, and in Perth there were those who thought he was arguably the fastest of the four fast bowlers.

Having a high arm he got a particularly steep lift out of the Perth pitch, which he would be less likely to do in Melbourne. He is 6ft 2in, too, which is a help; yet it is still something of a mystery to me quite where he gets his pace from. Yes, he has a good, gathering run, and he is lithe and naturally athletic. But when Alan Davidson, a great Australian fast bowler, says that Holding reminds him of Wesley Hall, or that he soon will, the analogy surprises me. Holding looks to me more like someone who should be going to his marks, to await the starter's gun, than filling a batsman with the fear of God. He strikes one as being more fitted to an athletics scholarship at the Chattanooga University than to a Test match in Melbourne.

The West Indians have the one-day international match on Saturday, followed by a three-day game against South Australia, before the third Test match starts in Melbourne on Boxing Day. They will spend Christmas Day in Melbourne, as MCC did last year, and in 1970-71 when, through bad weather, not a ball was bowled in the third Test match. If that were to happen now the cost to Australian cricket would be irredeemably heavy. It is from tours like this one, and last year's when MCC were here, that Australia hope to keep their coffers filled.

West Indies not happy about likely returns

Adelaide, Dec 18.—West Indies cricket administrators are dissatisfied with the financial returns expected from their team's current tour of Australia and from next year's tour to England. "We are being taken advantage of", said Keith Walcott, a West Indies board member, after a conference in Perth yesterday of leading West Indies' administrators.

Present at the meeting, which was held behind closed doors, were Walcott, Clive Lloyd, the team captain, the vice-captain Deryck Murray, the manager, Esmond Kentish and two members of the West Indies board who flew to Perth for the second Test match, Harold Burnett and Lance Murray.

For the present Australian tour, West Indies have been guaranteed £150,000, from which they have to pay all expenses. This will leave them with a profit of about £21,875.

Gate takings from the first two Tests alone have totalled nearly £175,000. Capacity crowds at the remaining four Tests could bring a return of between £300,000 and £450,000 to the Australian board.

Walcott said the West Indies tour of India this year lost them about £8,700, whereas the Indian board made record profits. He added that West Indies made only £5,000 on the last tour of England, while the English counties split a total of £168,000.—Reuter.

Greig joins Marsh in call for head protection

Sydney, Dec 18.—The England captain, Tony Greig, today donned his cricketing crash helmet and declared: "I've got a wife and a family—what would happen to them if I got hit on the temple and was killed?" He then joined Rodney Marsh, of Australia, in calling for batsmen to wear protective headgear.

Marsh has issued a grim warning that the "frightening fast bowling we have just seen in the second Test in Perth is sooner or later going to lead to a tragedy". Greig said today: "I'm not scared. I'll do battle with anybody. You can ride a cut on the eye or a few stitches in the jaw, but the temple is only a couple of inches away, and that's the area that's dangerous."

Greig then produced the crash helmet which he was tempted to wear when batting against Lillee and Thomson in last summer's Test in Sydney. "One day it will be compulsory for a batsman to wear a hat like this when he's facing quick bowling", he predicted.

Greig got the idea from the United States where crash helmets are compulsory for baseball batsmen. So he asked an English company which manufactures his unusually shaped batting gloves to make one. "It's not only to protect the players. It's to protect the game as well", Greig said. "When mum starts to think her little boy might get killed playing cricket, it's time to act."

Greig's beliefs were strengthened when Ewan Chatfield, of New Zealand, was lucky to escape death after being struck by a bouncer from the England fast bowler, Peter Lever. "Chatfield was dead for two minutes", he said. "If it hadn't been for the quick actions of our physiotherapist, the guy wouldn't be alive today."

Why didn't Greig go ahead with plans to wear the helmet in a Test against Australia? "I didn't want to be the only bloke to do it", he said. "Apart from being like a red rag to a bull where Lillee and Thommo are concerned, people might have thought I was only trying to draw attention to myself."—Reuter.

John Edrich, the Surrey captain and England opening batsman, came out firmly in support of the suggestion yesterday that batsmen should wear protective headgear when facing fast bowling. Edrich, commenting on the proposals by the Australian wicket-keeper Rodney Marsh and the England captain, Tony Greig, said: "I would think it would be a damn good idea to wear protective equipment and I think a lot of people would do it. I would certainly consider it if someone came up with the right gear. The way things are going it would be crazy not to have protection."

Rackets

Sutton unruffled and accomplished

By Our Rackets Correspondent

Haileybury, including the top seed, R. P. Ellis, and Wellington each have three players in the last 16 of the Incledon Webber Cup for Colts in the schools rackets competitions which continued at Queen's Club yesterday. Tonbridge have two useful contenders in C. R. Fuente, the No 2 seed, and J. C. Spurling, who put out the No 3 seed, A. G. T. Pepper (Radley) by 18—15 in the final game.

The professionals, in assessing the original 68 young players, have done a fair job. Apart from Pepper, the only seeded player to fall has been J. C. Cowdrey (Tonbridge), beaten in his first match by P. Clarke (Malvern) who then went on to beat C. M. V. Jones (Eton) without the loss of a point.

Spurling, compact and a natural games player, impressed when beating A. J. Naylor (Marlborough) by 15—1, 15—1. Though only a colt, he recently won the Tonbridge singles event against players older and more experienced than himself. His rivals in the lower half of the draw seem to be M. Macdonell (Winchester), D. J. C. Faber (Eton) and C. Sutton (Radley). Macdonell showed an aggressive and well-controlled forehand when beating S. D. Walker (Charterhouse) by 15—9, 15—5.

Faber disposed of his fellow Etonian, A. D. Pease, the youngest of three rackets playing brothers, by 15—7, 15—1. Sutton, a small, left-hander, has so far looked the most accomplished match player even if his style is stiff. He totally outserved S. J. Y. Scott (Clifton) to win by 15—2, 15—5 and even when taken to three games in his previous match showed no signs of becoming ruffled.

SECOND ROUND: J. C. Spurling (Tonbridge) beat A. G. T. Pepper (Radley), 17—8, 12—15, 18—15; C. R. Fuente (Tonbridge) beat C. J. Arnold (Rugby), 15—4, 15—4.

THIRD ROUND: Spurling beat A. J. Naylor (Marlborough), 15—1, 15—1; P. E. R. Wallis (Haileybury) beat C. B. R. Fisher (Winchester), 15—2, 15—0; R. D. Abbott (Marlborough) beat A. G. T. Pell (Tonbridge), 15—1, 15—7; M. Macdonell (Winchester) beat S. D. Walker (Charterhouse), 15—9, 15—5; D. J. C. Faber (Eton) beat A. D. Pease (Eton), 15—7, 15—1; I. P. W. Low (Wellington) beat P. R. C. Plowden (Malvern), 15—4, 10—15, 15—1; N. G. Williams (Charterhouse) beat J. W. Osmond (Clifton), 15—3, 10—15, 15—8; C. Sutton (Radley) beat S. J. Y. Scott (Clifton), 15—2, 15—5; R. P. Ellis (Haileybury) beat S. Hughes (Clifton), 15—5, 15—2; P. Wright (Haileybury) beat M. G. A. McKinlock (Malvern), 15—12, 11—15, 15—3; C. Mole (Charterhouse) beat N. C. Esses (Clifton), 15—2, 15—8; M. J. L. Paul (Harrow) beat D. J. G. Royds (Charterhouse), 15—8, 15—1; P. Clarke (Malvern) beat C. M. V. Jones (Eton), 15—0, 15—0; J. H. D. Mallinson (Wellington) beat D. J. Gray (Tonbridge), 15—1, 15—12; R. J. K. Paterson (Wellington) beat J. L. Chaplin (Rugby), 15—13, 15—3; Fuente beat H. Akerman (Harrow), 15—2, 15—8.

Skiing

Superb run in slalom by Oxford captain

From A Special Correspondent
Falcadi, Italy, Dec 18

The Oxford and Cambridge University Ski races continued today with Oxford establishing a remarkably large lead of 15.82sec on team aggregate in the giant slalom which had been postponed yesterday.

Heavy snowfall before and during the race did not stop an outstanding and technically superb run of 50.35sec from the Oxford captain Richard Ayles (Lincoln). Martine Ingenhousz (Wadham) distinguished herself by beating all the Cambridge men with an excellent time of 53.53sec to take second place. Peter Carew (New College) with 54.27sec gave strong support over an exacting and fast course which included a wide variety of terrain.

First for Cambridge with a time of 54.11sec was Ondrej Krivanek (Trinity) who won the open parallel slalom and was expected to do better today. Second was Iain Low (Magdalene) with 54.48sec. Cambridge were considered to have a strong overall team but had two falls and a disqualification. The aggregate is taken on the times of the best four races in each team so it will be interesting to see whether Cambridge can recover their grip in tomorrow's special slalom particularly as conditions are expected to be just as difficult.

GIANT SLALOM: 1, R. Ayles (Lincoln, Oxford) 50.35sec; 2, M. Ingenhousz (Wadham, Oxford) 53.53; 3, O. Krivanek (Trinity, Cambridge), 54.11; 4, P. Carew (New College, Oxford) 54.27; 5, I. Low (Magdalene, Cambridge) 54.48; 6, P. Hirsch (Magdalen, Oxford) 55.55; 7, A. Reiner (Gonville and Caius, Cambridge) 56.41; 8, P. Booth (St Catherine's, Oxford) 56.56; 9, B. Fuchs (Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford) 1min 2.33sec; 10, T. Blacklock (St John's, Cambridge) 1:04.52; 11, W. Inglis (Magdalene, Cambridge) 1:16.96.

Yachting

SYDNEY: Southern Cross Cup (first race): 1, Prospect of Ponsonby (N. Angus, NZ), 228.1min; 2, Noryema (R. Amey, GB), 223.21; 3, Pied Piper (E. Turner, US), 229.93. Other British placings: 11, Appollo III (A. Slater), 238.4; 12, Melini

Tennis

SYDNEY: New South Wales open championship: Men's singles, third *round*: K. *Rosewall beat R. Gehring* (W Germany), 6—4, 6—3; D. Fairlie (NZ) beat J. Kukal (Czechoslovakia), 5—6, 6—3, 6—4; J. Lloyd (GB) beat J. Soares (Brazil), 1—6, 7—5, 14—13; A. Roche beat T. Kakulia (USSR), 6—2, 6—3; D. Carter beat R. Moore (SA), 6—1, 3—6, 6—3; R. Ruffels beat C. Pasarell (US), 7—6, 6—2. Women's singles, third round: Miss S. Barker (GB) beat Miss B. Simon (France), 7—5, 6—3; Miss M. Tyler (GB) beat Miss M. Gurdal (Belgium), 3—6, 6—4, 6—1. Fourth round: Mrs E. Cawley beat Miss K. Harter (US), 6—0, 7—5.

Snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
GERMANY					
Garmisch	25	35	Good	Cloud	-4
Hindelang	30	35	Good	—	-4
Kleinwalsertal	40	60	Good	—	-5
Mittenwald	15	40	Fair	—	-3
Oberammergau	35	65	Good	—	-4
Oberstaufen	30	45	Good	—	-5
ITALY					
Abetone	15	60	Good	—	—
Bardonecchia	30	70	Good	—	—
Bormio	25	130	Good	—	—
Canazei	30	200	Good	—	—
Cervinia	90	250	Good	—	—
Claviere	65	70	Good	—	—
Cortina	90	100	Good	—	—
Courmayeur	10	250	Good	—	—
Madesimo	60	180	Good	—	—
Madonna di C	110	270	Good	—	—
San Martino	30	140	Good	—	—
Sauze d'Oulx	30	80	Good	—	—
Sestriere	70	90	Good	—	—
SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	30	60	Good	Cloud	-4
Andermatt	30	70	Hard	Fog	-1
Arosa	64	90	Good	Cloud	-9
Braunwald	30	60	Good	Cloud	-8
Chateau d'Oex	10	50	Good	Cloud	-5
Crans	15	45	Good	Cloud	-4
Davos	80	90	Good	Cloud	-8
Engelberg	20	140	Good	Fog	—
Flims	50	50	Good	Cloud	-4
Grindelwald	30	80	Good	Cloud	-6
Gstaad	10	70	Good	Cloud	0
Kandersteg	25	60	Good	Fog	-2
Klosters	65	90	Good	Snow	-5
Lenzerheide	60	40	Good	Cloud	-6
Les Diablerets	40	60	Good	Snow	-3
Leysin	10	50	Hard	Cloud	-1
Murren	60	80	Good	Fog	-1
Pontresina	60	60	Good	Cloud	-1
Saas-Fee	50	120	Good	Sunny	-5
Verbiers	20	100	Good	Cloud	0
Villars	40	90	Good	Sunny	-3
Wengen	30	80	Good	Cloud	-3
Wildhaus	30	40	Good	Cloud	-5
Zermatt	60	90	Good	Sunny	-5

SPORT

Football

Football Association to allow Cup ties on New Year's Day

Chelsea and Nottingham Forest have been told by the Football Association that they can after all play their third round FA Cup ties at home to Bristol Rovers and Peterborough United respectively, on New Year's Day. Orient have also been given permission to play on the Bank Holiday instead of January 3, but their opponents, Cardiff City, have declined to switch as it would upset their training schedule.

Ted Croker, the FA secretary, said the decision had been reached "after further consultation with the police and in view of the clubs' wishes". Originally the Cup committee decided that the ties could be brought forward only to the Friday night. Brian Clough, the Nottingham Forest manager, was particularly upset at that decision, and Brian Mears, Chelsea's chairman, made a personal appeal to Mr Croker on Wednesday. Mr Croker said: "Bringing the games forward seems to be commonsense under the circumstances. It will benefit the clubs financially. The first decision was made in the light of existing rules."

Mr Croker discounted the thought that others might want to cash in on big holiday crowds. He said: "We have been in touch with other clubs who might have wanted to switch but none of them do. We will not consider any other requests."

The police had told the FA they were not keen on Chelsea playing at Stamford Bridge on New Year's Day, but they also stressed that they were worried at the prospect of having three big ties in west London on the same afternoon. Queen's Park Rangers are at home to Newcastle United and Fulham entertain Huddersfield Town. Forest asked to change because Notts County have a home tie against Leeds United at the County Ground.

Struggling League clubs, faced with heavy bills for improving their grounds to comply with the Safety of Sports Grounds Act, are to have financial assistance. The Football League, in agreement with the Pools Promoters Association, have set up a new trust fund to help clubs who will have to make a capital outlay to comply with the new Act. The scheme will be financed by a percentage of money taken from the "Spot the Ball" competition.

The trustees are unable at present to state on what basis their grants will be made, but they are to circulate clubs to find out the size of expenditure expected on ground improvements.

The Professional Footballers' Association committee are to meet Alan Hardaker and the League Management Committee on January 15 in the next stage of the "freedom of contracts" negotiations.

The League had hoped to ratify the agreement with the PFA at an extraordinary general meeting on January 13, but this was called off when the clubs asked for more time to consider the implications of the new charter.

Cliff Lloyd, the PFA secretary, said: "I think there has been a lot of misunderstanding about what the players are asking for. They want the right to be able to move when their contract has finished. Soccer is the only business in which this is not happening."

Bowles is back in the Queen's Park Rangers party for the match against Liverpool at Anfield tomorrow.

Today's fixtures

FIRST DIVISION: Coventry City v Everton (7.30).
SECOND DIVISION: West Bromwich Albion v Southampton (7.30).
FOURTH DIVISION: Southport v Torquay (7.30); Tranmere Rovers v Reading (7.30).
RUGBY UNION: Cardiff v London Welsh (7.0); Newport v Harlequins (7.0); Tredegar v Clifton (7.0).
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Castleford v Keighley (7.30).

Time for Ormond and Scotland to worry

By A Special Correspondent

Scotland failed to find a single foundation stone for the 1978 World Cup in Argentina when they managed only a 1-1 draw against the Romanians at Hampden Park on Wednesday night. The two brief moments of enjoyment for the chilled, angry 11,375 paying customers were the powerful free-kick from Rioch, of Derby County, which provided the Scots with a half-time lead, and the final whistle.

There was nothing in the make-up of the side or individual performance to suggest that the Scots were going anywhere, next year or the year after. It was a dull, dismal affair with too many of the Scots playing well below the form acceptable to their club managers, and the younger players, like the right winger, Doyle, of Ayr, and Gray, of Aston Villa, failed to impress anyone with their talents.

Admittedly it was a meaningless game: one which had to be completed to finish off the play in Group Four of the European Championship qualifying competition, with the Spaniards already pondering their quarter-final round opponents in the draw next month.

It was a night on which the Scottish public made the right decision to stay away and write their Christmas cards. It was cold, the ground was as hard as a Romanian elbow, and the Scottish manager, Willie Ormond, again failed to create a formation that could score goals. After 30 international matches, Mr Ormond can now begin to worry about his future. During the past year Scotland have played 10 matches and lost only one (one not to be shouted about, namely at Wembley). The statistics look good in print but closer examination reveals a failure to beat the top sides, Spain, England and Romania. These were the ones that mattered.

If Mr Ormond is still around when Scotland meet Switzerland at Hampden in April he must be more ruthless in his team selection. Hartford, of Manchester City, Gemmill, of Derby, are too alike in physique and in manner of play to operate side by side. What Mr Ormond desperately needs is a tall, midfield ball winner like Hay, of Chelsea, to link with Hartford or Gemmill and the improving Rioch, who is a handy chap to have around even if only for the strength of his left foot shot. These players would form a group to control the midfield area.

One wonders, too, about Celtic's captain, Dalglish, who has never hit peak form in 30 appearances for Scotland. In his early days there were those who said that Dalglish, a busy, bustling forward who enjoys running with the ball, was affected by the strong personality of Bremner. But Bremner has not been around in recent games and Dalglish has failed to emerge from the ranks as someone with extraordinary talent.

Mr Ormond, or his successor, must re-examine the pool of players available to him and look for a more creative and positive style of play. Scotland's use of the ball is bad and finishing pathetic. Perhaps it is time to plunder the ranks of the highly successful under-23 side, who are now unbeaten in six games; time to promote such players as Pettigrew, of Motherwell, Craig, of Newcastle United, Miller, of Aberdeen, and Bremner of Hibernian.

Yesterday's results

Scottish Cup
First round replay
Hawick RA (0) 0 Albion R (1) 3
Brogan
Sermant
Docherty (pen)
Winners home to Glasgow Univ.

Athletics

Shorter is looking to discover his form

By Neil Allen
Athletics Correspondent

Frank Shorter, the American Olympic marathon champion, arrived in London yesterday for tomorrow's cross-country race at Crystal Palace. He was almost pleading the Fifth Amendment about the amateur status controversy in which he has been involved since addressing President Ford's committee on Olympic sports earlier this winter.

When I asked him if he had said, as reported by the New York Times, that he had received money for running, he replied: "If you had the transcript, and the New York Times guy had no recording machine, then you wouldn't need to ask that question. Our Amateur Athletic Union is in the process of clearing up the whole matter and I'd prefer to leave it to them. You should hear from them soon.

"When I spoke I was concerned about telling Americans about the situation in amateur sport in other countries involving federation help and various subsidies. They hadn't heard about it and people were so excited that the whole matter was blown out of proportion."

Shorter has submitted a clarifying statement to the AAU whose next official step should be to write to the International Amateur Athletic Federation. They were understandably concerned about the widely published reports of Shorter's revelations of sham-amateur payments to athletes in various countries.

For tomorrow's race at Crystal Palace, Shorter feels he is in a much better condition than he was for the international cross-country championship in Rabat last March when he finished well back after being up with the leaders early on. He does not regard the Crystal Palace event as a "fun" race.

"I missed the American national cross-country championship because I was snowed up in New Mexico. The only race I've had this winter was on a muddy course over 10,000 metres when I finished second. Neither our indoor or our outdoor season in America will give me much chance of racing against the best Europeans.

"Saturday's race could tell me something about my form. I've been training about 120 miles a week at altitudes close to 6,000 ft."

Shorter is not certain whether Britain's Brendan Foster, who beat him over 10,000 metres on the Crystal Palace track last August, should concentrate on that event for the Olympics.

Racing

Star Appeal to join elite at stud

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Star Appeal, who, to the surprise of not a few won the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and the Eclipse Stakes earlier this year, is to join Mill Reef, Grundy, Blakeney, Habat and Tudor Melody at our national stud and begin life as a stallion there next season. This was announced yesterday by Sir Desmond Plummer, the chairman of the Levy Board, who are responsible for financing the stud. But whereas earlier this year the board took a large financial stake in Grundy they are not doing so on this occasion.

Star Appeal will remain the property of his German owner Waldemar Zeitelhack and simply board there just as Habat still belongs to Dr Carlo Vittidini and boards there. The National Stud needed another stallion because Never Say Die who used to stand there died this autumn and Tudor Melody is restricted to only 11 mares.

The arrival of Star Appeal from New York where he has been since he ran in the Washington DC International is imminent and his presence at Newmarket will mean that in 1976 the stud will house two horses who won both the Arc and the Eclipse Stakes, the other being Mill Reef. Like Mill Reef, Grundy also won the Derby and the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes and like both Mill Reef and Grundy, Blakeney won the Derby.

Mill Reef and Grundy were also top class two-year-olds. Habat and Tudor Melody were equally precocious which means that the National Stud is pretty well equipped for the time being. Star Appeal's stay there is guaranteed to last two years and a minimum of 15 nominations will be available to British breeders in 1976. The terms agreed upon are that a nomination to him will initially cost 1,000 guineas which will be payable on July 15 and that a further sum of 2,000 guineas will be due on the first of October unless a certificate of barrenness can be produced by that date.

If I have done my sums right those figures give Star Appeal an overall valuation of roughly £500,000, a tidy profit to his owner when one realizes that Mr Zeitelhack paid only £10,000 for Star Appeal towards the end of his three-year-old career and that this year alone he won three Group I races, the Gran Premio di Milano being the other in addition to the Arc and the Eclipse which I have already mentioned.



Star Appeal: a stallion at National Stud next season.

There are three races that promise quite well at Chepstow today, the Olympic Hurdle which is restricted to four-year-olds, the Johnny Clay Memorial Handicap Steeplechase and the Celtic Handicap Hurdle which is for amateur riders. Artifice, my selection for the Olympic Hurdle, has settled down well in this country since his arrival from Ireland and won his only races here at Ascot and Sandown Park where he looked a promising young horse in the making.

No one will be keener to win the race named after his late father more than Glyn Clay and he has a good chance of doing so with Sixer who clearly loves Chepstow. Sixer has won four times there already and few will stay the three and threequarter miles better than he.

A year ago Peter Hobbs, an amateur, won the Celtic Handicap Hurdle for Betty Kennard on Hogan Hills. Today the same combination of rider and trainer could be successful with Dicopin who ran well enough in her first and only race this season at Newbury where she finished seventh behind Apple of My Eye to suggest that hers was a name to follow in a long distance hurdle in the not too distant future. Today could well be the day.

STATE OF GOING (official): Chepstow: Good. Teesside Park: Soft. Sedgefield (tomorrow): Good. Fakenham (tomorrow): Good.

Francophile to renew a successful partnership

By Michael Seely

Francophile, owned by Sidney Powell, whose colours have been carried with distinction on the flat by such good horses as The Brianstan, can win the Southwick Handicap Steeplechase at Teesside Park this afternoon.

Francophile, now 10 years old, has had a chequered career. Originally owned and raced by Brook Holliday, Francophile won a maiden race at York as a two-year-old by eight lengths when trained by Walter Wharton. After being sold to the Malton trainer, Frank Carr, for 8,600 guineas, Francophile won over hurdles. He was then sold again to Arthur Stephenson, who passed him on to one of his chief patrons, Jack Britton.

Under the care of Stephenson the French Beige gelding developed into a useful hurdler. In the season 1968-69 he won four handicaps. As he grew older and started to lose his speed his attention was turned to steeplechasing, and Mr Britton sent Francophile to his cousin, Reg Lamb, who trains at Seahouse, in Northumberland. Mr Lamb's son Ridley, was just starting to make a name for himself as an amateur rider and Francophile was considered a likely animal to help the budding jockey on his path to success. The partnership enjoyed a successful time in the season 1973-74 when they won five steeplechases together.

That spring, Francophile was sold to Sidney Powell to carry his colours in the Grand National. This venture proved unsuccessful. Francophile, though brave as a lion, is handicapped by his lack of inches. Ridden by Richard Pitman in Red Rum's second Grand National, Francophile was completely unnerved by the huge fences at Aintree and was trailing the field when he finally refused four jumps from home.

Shattered by this experience, Francophile lost his form completely last season when he failed to finish in the first three on any occasion. When Mr Powell's trainer Owen McNally, handed in his licence three months ago, Francophile was sent back to Northumberland. The moment the horsebox drew up at Seahouses Francophile pricked his ears and walked happily straight to his old stable. Since then the 10-year-old has taken on a new lease of life. In three runs this winter Francophile has won once and been placed twice. Of his opponents today Lord of the Hills has the beating of Francophile on some form but is an unreliable jumper.

That remarkable little veteran Interview II, the winner of 23 races for Stephenson generally needs at least two runs to bring him to his peak. The redoubtable stayer Meridian II, ran below his best behind Collingwood at Wetherby. Francophile ridden by his old partner Lamb in his first season as a professional is a fairly confident selection.

The Humbledon Novices' Steeplechase can go to one of last season's top novice hurdlers Primerello, who after a successful first appearance over fences at Market Rasen was a trifle disappointing when outpaced by Roaring Wind and Birdland at Nottingham. On this afternoon's softer ground Primerello can make his experience tell against Coparu, who though yet to run over fences has won two hurdle races in style recently.

Taunton meeting off

Yesterday's race meeting at Taunton was abandoned because of frost on the ground. The frost came in heavily from 9 am after the stewards' early morning inspection and they decided to call off the meeting.

Chepstow programme

12.45 ROMAN HURDLE (4-y-o: £340: 2½m)

101 020010 Happy Call (W. Kendrick), O. O'Neill, 11-9 .... M. James 5
103 100-004 Terryash (L. Stevens), D. Barons, 11-5 .... S. May
105 0 Fiery Frances (P. Leigh), J. Bradley, 11-0 .... M. Williams 5
107 202000 Macturk (Mrs V. Duery), B. Payne, 11-0 .... J. Guest 5
108 3-00 Mandys Lad (R. Bryant), D. H. Jones, 11-0 .... J. Jenkins
109 Mark B (E. Birchall), Birchall, 11-0 .... C. Smith 7
111 00-0002 Old Policy (Mrs A. Collins), I. Jordon, 11-0 ....
112 0 Oaahu (D. Sasse), Sasse, 11-0 .... J. Merchant
113 Rock Brandy (J. Bradley), Bradley, 11-0 .... Mr M. Ley 7
114 000-004 Starginger (W. Whiston), Whiston, 11-0 .... D. Cartwright
117 0-f44 Warwick Flyer (D. Morris), O. O'Neill, 11-0 .... B. Brogan
9-4 Macturk, 7-2 Old Policy, 4-1 Happy Call, 6-1 Oaahu, 8-1 Terryash, 10-1 Warwick Flyer, 12-1 Mandys Lad, 20-1 others.

1.15 JOHNNY CLAY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £867: 3m 6f)

201 0f-0210 Rough House (C) (Mrs W. Brown), F. Rimell, 9-11-13 J. Burke
203 124p-01 Clonmellon (Miss B. Shennan), R. Armytage, 8-11-4 K. B. White
205 f4p-032 Bentley Boy (CD) (H. Gibbon), D. Nicholson, 10-10-13 J. Suthern
206 01-1110 Inycarra (C) (C. Fryer), Fryer, 8-10-8 .... M. Wagner
207 10-22f3 Dead Reckoning (P. Pope), F. Cundell, 6-10-3 .. B. R. Davies
208 f1-e311 Flippant Fred (D. Hebditch), L. Kennard, 8-10-1 .. R. Crank
209 0-p000f Captain Clever (A. Stevens), Stevens, 5-10-0 ....
210 10-14f4 Bramwell Boy (Mrs M. Easton), Mrs Easton, 8-10-0 R. Champion
211 402431 Sixer (CD) (G. Clay), Clay, 11-10-0 .... P. Warner
212 01-p1f4 *Vindicate (Mrs S. Pattemore), S. Pattemore, 8-10-0 ....
213 p20010 The Songwriter (P. Callander), J. Gifford, 6-10-0 M. Gibson
215 244p-44 Bright Spartan (G. Yardley), Yardley, 7-10-0 H. J. Evans 3
216 p0-4002 Stocking (L. Potter), Potter, 8-10-0 .... B. Jones 5
3-1 Flippant Fred, 4-1 Bentley Boy, 9-2 Rough House, 6-1 Dead Reckoning, 8-1 Clonmellon, Inycarra, 10-1 Sixer, 20-1 others.

1.45 CELTIC HURDLE (Handicap: £680: 3m)

301 14140-0 Saffron Cake (CD) (Power Packing Services Ltd), L. Kennard, 6-12-0 .... Mr C. Ball 7
304 232130- Flying Orchid (G. Luck), J. Gifford, 6-11-10 Mr C. Saunders
305 230-010 Hurry Imp (D) (Mrs O. Negus-Fancey), M. Tate, 5-11-7 Mr J. Docker 3
306 01131-0 Dicopin (D) (Mrs R. Hampshire), Mrs E. Kennard, 5-11-6 Mr P. Hobbs 3
307 1020-pp Silver Delight (Sir E. McAlpine), F. Cundell, 6-10-15 Mr N. Henderson 5
308 0-f2f00 Gay Kybo (L. Kerman), J. Gifford, 7-10-14 .. Mr G. Sloan
309 1342-01 Valuable Coin (D) (A. Whettam), J. Old, 5-10-13 Mr E. Whettam 7
310 04 *High-Si (Admin of P. Blackburn), Miss S. Morris, 8-10-9
312 22p111 Hard Cash (D) (J. Caddick), B. Cambidge, 6-10-8 Mr G. Jones
314 0 Mysticus (G. Greenhalgh), F. Rimell, 6-10-4 Mr S. Morshead 3
317 13r-000 Royal Refuge (L. Tizzard), Tizzard, 4-10-3 .... Mr C. Tizzard 7
319 0100-32 Markarajah (A. Steven), D. Ancil, 6-10-0 .... Mr P. Parkyn
320 000 Fortunes Pride (J. Joseph), Joseph, 8-10-0 .... Mr R. Wilding 7
321 34-1324 Percewood (J. Joseph), Joseph, 4-10-0 .... Mr R. Brown 7
15-8 Hard Cash, 4-1 Saffron Cake, 11-2 Hurry Imp, 7-1 Valuable Coin, 10-1 Markarajah, Dicopin, 12-1 Flying Orchid, 20-1 others.

2.15 NORMAN STEEPLECHASE (£340: 2m)

401 121231 Perambulate (D) (Mrs D. Meats), D. Barons, 6-11-13 S. May
404 32004- Bob Gascho (F. Allingham), M. Scudamore, 7-11-2 P. Huggins 7
405 0f Early Silver (N. Rimington), J. Old, 6-11-2 .... C. Landy
406 0-f20r4 Gay Viking (Mrs P. Lalley), M. Tate, 8-11-2 .... B. Brogan
412 21-000 Double Negative (Mrs M. Power), F. Rimell, 5-11-0 K. B. White
414 000-0 Legal Argument (Lady Thomson), R. Armytage, 5-11-0 Mr S. Parkyn
415 000-000 Mightier Yet (Mrs G. McFerran), C. Davies, 6-11-0 .. R. Hyett
416 p Rough Girl (R. Brown), F. Rimell, 5-11-0 .... J. Burke
417 300-2f Tudor Amber (Mrs E. Kennard), Mrs Kennard, 5-11-0 P. Richards 7
7-4 Perambulate, 7-2 Double Negative, 4-1 Tudor Amber, 6-1 Early Silver, 8-1 Rough Girl, 10-1 Gay Viking, 12-1 Bob Gascho, 20-1 others.

2.45 OLYMPIC HURDLE (4-y-o: £817: 2½m)

502 11300- 1Jer (C. St George), H. Price, 11-12 .... P. Kelleway
503 100-000 Zip Fastener (R. McAlpine), F. Rimell, 11-12 .... J. Burke
504 0-11 Artifice (P. Barber), J. Thorne, 11-5 .... R. Linley
505 21-01 Just Jolly (D) (Mrs B. Thomson), P. Taylor, 11-5 A. Carroll 7
508 f10430 Honey Beam (S. Rotter), L. Kennard, 11-0 .... C. Jones 7
509 100000- Petroleum (Admin of P. Blackburn), Miss S. Morris, 11-0 P. Larcombe 7
511 0300 Angels Five (Mrs A. Beeson), E. Beeson, 10-9 .... J. Jenkins
513 Court Dancer (Mrs R. Strudwick), P. Cole, 10-9 R. Champion
514 Full Quota (Mrs L. Welham), R. Head, 10-9 .... J. Francome
516 0 March Hare (C. Griffiths), P. Ransom, 10-9 .... I. Watkinson
518 Open Fire (M. Holly), F. Walwyn, 10-9 .... W. Smith
520 000f3 Rosie Whisper (J. Gibson), Gibson, 10-9 .... M. Gibson
522 00p-000 Tarradeon (W. Whittingham), M. Killoran, 10-9 S. G. Davis 7
524 00 William Penn (J. Rubin), B. Thompson, 10-9 .. H. J. Evans 3
13-8 Artifice, 4-1 Court Dancer, Open Fire, 7-1 Zip Fastener, 12-1 Just Jolly, 16-1 Honey Beam, 20-1 others.

3.15 SAXON HURDLE (Handicap: £340: 2m)

601 221100- Crofter (G. Sloan), J. Gifford, 6-12-7 .... Mr G. Sloan
603 01122-3 Buckingham (A. Smith), R. Turnell, 5-11-12 .... A. Turnell
604 043 Fiery Coin (Mrs F. Russell), F. Rimell, 5-11-6 .. K. B. White
605 0200p- Marron D'Or (Mrs C. Mathoson), T. Forster, 6-11-5 G. Thorner
606 3 Twilight Spring (G. Balding), Balding, 5-11-3 .... R. Linley
608 1f0 Rosy Picture (S. Holden), E. Beeson, 5-11-3 .... J. Jenkins
609 3-00 Gifted Girl (D. Tucker), H. Payne, 5-11-1 .... J. Guest 5
610 23-4423 Cochineal (Miss B. Lea-Smith), T. Forster, 7-11-1 D. Cartwright
612 04 Roman City (Mrs D. Campbell), C. Davies, 5-10-11 B. R. Davies
613 004-0 Daring Leap (Mrs J. Emery), D. Barons, 5-10-9 .. S. May
614 300f34- Scot Free (Admin of P. Blackburn), Miss S. Morris, 5-10-8 P. Keane 5
615 0-f2020 Bright Baby (L. Thomas), Thomas, 5-10-8 .... T. Hallett 5
616 0p-0330 Carrig River (H. Handel), Handel, 7-10-7 .. Mr M. Ayliffe 7
617 00f030- Arctic John (W. Owens), J. Bradley, 5-10-7 .. M. Williams 5
618 430003 Cagaleena (J. Powell), Powell, 5-10-0 .... Mr K. Morris 7
5-2 Buckingham, 3-1 Cochineal, 9-2 Fiery Coin, 6-1 Crofter, 8-1 Roman City, 10-1 Twilight Spring, 12-1 Rosy Picture, 20-1 others.

* Doubtful runner

Chepstow selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

12.45 Warwick Flyer. 1.15 Sixer. 1.45 DICOPIN is specially recommended. 2.15 Perambulate. 2.45 Artifice. 3.15 Buckingham.

Teesside Park programme

12.30 PALLION HURDLE (Div I: £306: 2m 176yd)

1 03f3-0 Birthday Parade (H. Brown), J. Twibell, 4-11-0 .. R. Lee 7
3 Bright Glen (P. Hinchliffe), S. Norton, 4-11-0 .. J. Baston 5
4 0303 Buck Me Off (Mrs B. Curley), W. Brennan, 4-11-0 B. Hannon
5 Caracole (Mrs A. Collins), S. Hall, 6-11-0 .... D. Munro
6 Caspardale (R. Parker), G. Richards, 4-11-0 .... D. Goulding
7 0000-23 Cherabor (J. Rowley), A. Jarvis, 4-11-0 .... P. Blacker
8 000-0f Clifton House (P. Muldoon), G. Richards, 4-11-0 .. J. O'Neill
10 0p-0 Dick Morgan (A. Hodgkinson), A. Kemp, 4-11-0 .. V. Percival
11 0 Dryburn (W. Walton), G. Fairburn, 4-11-0 .... R. Barry
12 0-40f0 Ego Trip (Mrs M. Botterill), J. Watts, 4-11-0 .... T. Skiffington
13 000u- Flaxton (N. Heslop), M. W. Easterby, 4-11-0 .... C. Tinkler
14 000 Footman (Lady Carr), Lady Herries, 5-11-0 .... J. Doyle
16 200-000 Hop Pole (A. Sims), F. Wiles, 7-11-0 .... S. Wiles 0
17 0f00 Last Week-End (C. Longbottom), F. Wiles, 6-11-0 R. McCauley
18 p00 Light Smoker (P. Greenall), Mrs Greenall, 6-11-0 Mr P. Greenall
19 Matsube (T. Hammond), J. Harris, 5-11-0 .... M. Blackshaw
21 0 Moray Lodge (R. Winfield), S. Norton, 4-11-0 ....
22 0000 Mr Ten Per cent (Mrs B. Meechan), W. A. Stephenson, 4-11-0 G. Reid 7
123 f0300-0 Mucaine (Mrs A. Fawcett), J. Fitzgerald, 6-1-0 .. C. Holmes
24 Only a Monkey (Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk), Lady Herries, 5-11-0 P. Broderick
28 0 Tudor Swallow (J. Roberts), A. Watson, 4-11-0 G. Graham 5
29 Winter Melody (J. Hanson), Hanson, 4-11-0 .... T. Stack
4-1 Buck Me Off, 5-1 Only a Monkey, 11-2 Cheraber, 6-1 Caracole, 8-1 Caspardale, 10-1 Clifton House, 12-1 Mucaine, Mr Ten Per Cent, Ego Trip, 14-1 Dryburn, 30-1 others.

1.0 FULWELL STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £306: 2m)

1 2222- Lothian Brig (D) (J. Alder), Alder, 10-12-7 .. A. Houghton 5
2 p0421 Glenland (D) (F. Scotto), A. Kemp, 8-11-1 .... G. Faulkner
3 f42014 Toughie (D) (Mrs A. Naughton), M. Naughton, 8-11-1 C. Hawkins
4 330200 Any Prince (D) (Mrs J. McAlpine), W. Francis, 10-10-7 A. K. Taylor
6 0-00 Ormondo Tudor (W. Hickling), J. Bower, 6-10-7 J. Armstrong
7 240004 Walden Rights (CD) (T. Hough), F. Wiles, 10-10-7 .. S. Wiles
8 pppp- Winter Folly (L. Pick), D. Chapman, 9-10-7 .... P. Salmon 5
9 000000 Scotch Briar (T. Kersey), Kersey, 10-10-7 .... D. Turnbull
6-4 Glenland, 9-4 Lothian Brig, 5-1 Any Prince, 7-1 Toughie, 12-1 Walden Rights, 30-1 others.

1.30 SUNDERLAND HURDLE (Handicap: £408: 2m 176yd)

1 1200-02 Newfoundland (Mrs I. Hamilton), Hamilton, 7-12-7 D. Turnbull 7
2 311310 Tommy Joe (Mrs B. Curley), W. Brennan, 5-11-9 B. Hannon
3 1310-00 Solid Silver (Mrs K. Newton), F. Carr, 6-12-5 M. Blackshaw
4 402100- Sharageen (E. Roberts), A. Dickinson, 6-11-11 .. M. Dickinson
5 000-00 Andy Scott (Mrs J. Holmes), T. Gilliam, 7-11-7 .... R. Barry
6 101000 Welton Lad (CD) (J. Henderson), T. Barnes, 6-11-1 M. Barnes
8 340-141 Archetto (Mrs J. Hardy), J. Hardy, 5-10-6 .... J. Thompson 7
9 2f121d Fighting King (Mrs E. Dunn), Denys Smith, 4-10-0 A. Dickman
10 01-0 Napazi (CD) (K. Goodall), G. Richards, 5-10-0 B. Donaghy 7
12 000120 Village Light (F. Oates), W. A. Stephenson, 4-10-0 .. T. Stack
13 01p0-20 Silver Gilst (CD) (R. Ewens), J. Bower, 6-10-0 J. Armstrong 3
14 000-000 Carmoni Prince (CD) (Mrs R. Taylor), G. Richards, 5-10-0 J. O'Neill
16 Everlasting (A. Kelly), J. Fitzgerald, 7-10-0 .... M. Lowry 7
17 0034 Red Herring (Mrs B. Archbold), C. Lamb, 6-10-0 .. R. Lamb
5-2 Fighting King, 4-1 Archetto, 11-2 Tommy Joe, 8-1 Newfoundland, 10-1 Red Herring, Village Light, Solid Silver, 12-1 Carmoni Prince, Welton Lad, 16-1 others.

2.0 HUMBLEDON STEEPLECHASE (£306: 2½m)

3 0334-13 Primerello (P. Harper), J. Hardy, 7-11-13 .... M. Blackshaw
5 43-10pf Moidore's Son (R. Faulkner), Faulkner, 9-11-8 R. Faulkner 5
8 100-303 Slipperetto (J. McLaren), K. Oliver, 6-11-6 .... C. Tinkler
10 04-4011 Coparu (R. Jackson), T. Barnes, 5-11-4 .... M. Barnes
11 f1p-p Gold Kelpie (J. Brock), G. Richards, 5-11-4 .... F. Lowry
13 f0f Double Fault (J. Walton), G. Fairbairn, 6-11-1 .. D. Munro
15 Right Gossip (Mrs R. Chartres), 6-11-1 .... D. Turnbull 7
16 p Rowdy Friend (B. Matthews), K. Oliver, 7-11-1 .. N. Tinkler
17 040010 Superintendent (R. Scott), A. Kemp, 6-11-1 .... V. Percival
19 0-uu3u0 Brasidas (Lord Cadogan), N. Crump, 5-10-13 .... O. Atkins
20 Dingley Idol (Mrs B. Ward), A. Jarvis, 5-10-13 .... P. Blacker
21 040-0ff Kilgoris (R. Nisbet), L. Shedden, 5-10-13 .... P. Salmon 7
22 000 Love Aboard (Mrs H. Ballard), P. Buckley, 5-10-13 R. Barry
25 022 Why Go (J. Wilson), Wilson, 5-10-13 .... Mr A. Cassidy 7
Evens Primerello, 5-1 Coparu, 6-1 Why Go, 10-1 Slipperetto, Gold Kelpie, Moidore's Son, 16-1 Brasidas, 20-1 others.

2.30 SOUTHWICK STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £408: 3m)

2 10303-0 Interview II (CD) (R. Hunter), W. A. Stephenson, 10-12-1 T. Stack
3 p11132 Lord of the Hills (Mrs C. Berry), G. Richards, 8-11-9 J. O'Neill
4 0f0-p Battered (T. Winterton), A. Dickinson, 9-11-8 .. I. Moulton 7
5 000-213 Francophile (CD) (S. Powell), C. Lamb, 10-11-2 .. R. Lamb
6 14-1243 Meridian II (H. Baillie), K. Oliver, 8-11-2 .... H. Baillie 5
7 421333- Supermaster (CD) (Mrs H. Waite), W. A. Stephenson, 12-11-1 G. Faulkner 5
10 21213f- South Quay (Mrs C. Rowley), M. Naughton, 6-10-1 C. Tinkler
11 2f1-020 Stearline (C. Cottrell), A. Jarvis, 8-10-0 .... P. Blacker
13 0430p-4 Portholme (CD) (Lady Herries), Herries, 8-10-0 .. D. Munro
9-4 Lord of the Hills, 3-1 Francophile, 9-2 Meridian II, 6-1 Interview II, 8-1 Portholme, 12-1 Stearline, 14-1 others.

3.0 PALLION HURDLE (Div II: £306: 2m 176yd)

3 0140 Summercense (W. Bayston), M. H. Easterby, 4-11-7 P. Broderick
4 00- Atlas Jones (J. Lisle), G. Richards, 6-11-0 .... M. Nolan 5
5 Autumn Crocus (E. Hutton), J. Vickers, 5-11-0 .. N. Tinkler
6 00-0040 Ballylough VI (P. Greenall), Mrs M. Greenall, 7-11-0 Mr P. Greenall
7 233-00p Bluchel (K. Tuer), Tuer, 4-11-0 .... D. Munro
8 0-00 Calculator (Mrs R. Hunter), W. A. Stephenson, 6-11-0 T. Stack
9 Crows Nest (M. Meade), Meade, 4-11-0 .... P. Cullon 7
10 00 Early Morning (A. Sims), F. Wiles, 5-11-0 .... S. Wiles 7
12 f0- Going My Way (A. Kelly), J. Fitzgerald, 5-11-0 .. M. Lowry 7
14 0000 Golden Pistol (Mrs I. Raine), M. Naughton, 4-11-0 C. Tinkler
17 343400- Mystic Queen (Sir H. Arbuthnot), G. Fairbairn, 6-11-0 R. Barry
18 00-000 Nells Son (Mrs B. Ward), A. Jarvis, 4-11-0 .... P. Blacker
19 404-040 Rao Ralah (Mrs A. Macltaggart), G. Richards, 4-11-0 J. O'Neill
20 00p-0 Red Wall (F. Taylor), A. Kemp, 4-11-0 .... V. Percival
21 0 Tack Noir (P. Cook), Cook, 6-11-0 .... P. James
7-4 Rao Ralah, 9-4 Summercense, 6-1 Ballylough VI, 12-1 Going My Way, Mystic Queen, Calculator, 14-1 Bluchel, 20-1 others.

Teesside Park selections

By Our Racing Staff

12.30 Only a Moneky. 1.0 GLENLAND is specially recommended. 1.30 Andy Scott. 2.0 Primerello. 2.30 Francophile. 3.0 Calculator.

Motor racing

Surtees seeks sponsorship with new car

By a Special Correspondent

John Surtees, former world champion on two wheels and four, has produced a new Formula 1 car with which he hopes to contest most of next year's championship grands prix.

Designated the TS 19, the new machine is compact, having been built right down to the permitted minimum weight. There are no big technical innovations but the TS 19 has a low centre of gravity and a high emphasis on driver safety. Surtees was personally responsible for the overall concept with detail drawing and design carried out by Ken Sears.

The car represents a bold move by Surtees, for whom 1975 was a season haunted by the lack of both a big sponsor and racing success. He is still without sponsorship for 1976, but rather than negotiate for backing with only blueprints to show he has courageously opted to build first and begin hunting a sponsor afterwards. The venture has cost him at least £20,000 but he is confident that the TS 19 will attract the money he needs—around £100,000 for a one-car team and £160,000 for a two-car effort.

Unlike the Surtees grand prix cars of recent years the TS 19 is not an all-purpose machine adaptable to various formulae, but is designed specifically for formula one alone. It was designed round the Cosworth-Ford DFV engine and the standard of finish is impressively high.

Surtees, now aged 41, retired from racing some time ago. He plans to carry out the initial testing himself and hopes to give the car its first appearance, with a British driver at the wheel, in the Race of Champions at Brands Hatch in mid-March. Meanwhile, he will continue to test prospective drivers. He has already tried five, and found three of them promising, and is planning to give trials to perhaps another four.

Squash rackets

Aspirants for British title have much in common

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

Qamar Zaman, the world's leading squash rackets player, will be challenged by Gogi Alauddin, ranked third, in the "golden racket" series at Westcliff on Sea this evening. Zaman beat Mohibullah Khan at Wimbledon last month in the first match of this new professional competition, in which the winner advances to face a different challenger the following month. The series is sponsored by a sports goods company, Sondico.

At about three o'clock tomorrow afternoon the second seed, Kevin Shawcross will play Aly Abdel Aziz in the final of the British amateur championship, sponsored by Pakistan International Airlines at Wembley. Aziz is the first unseeded player to reach the final since Bill Reedman five seasons ago. It is 13 years since the title rested between an Australian and an Egyptian. On that occasion Ken Hiscoe beat Tewfik Shafik. So the only precedent—like the seedings—indicates that the left-handed Shawcross, who has yet to lose a game, will add the British championship to the Australian title he already holds. His only previous matches with Aziz have been exhibitions.

These two have a good deal in common. They are much the same age (Shawcross 27, Aziz 28) and are both brawny heavyweights who work at squash clubs: Shawcross at Lithgow, a coal-mining town in New South Wales, and Aziz at Göteborg, Sweden. It is doubtful if either has ever achieved such an admirable blend of skill, match fitness and the wisdom of acquired experience as they have demonstrated this week.

Aziz works on his game for an hour before breakfast and slightly longer at the end of the day. The rest of his time is spent at school (learning Swedish) and tackling the chores involved in running a squash club. He intends to become a professional when the championship is over and on that score may be reckoned to have the more urgent incentive. But it would be unreasonable to expect much more of Aziz than Ian Holding, the South African amateur champion, offered in vain before Shawcross beat him 9—5, 9—4, 9—3 last evening.

Holding's short game let him down in the first and third games. For the rest, he unsuccessfully tried to engage the massive Shawcross in brisk, error-inducing attrition. But Shawcross had enough confidence in his fitness to be discreet. He also had a wider range of shots and a greater capacity for the unexpected. Granted a common level of fitness and ball control, the man with the ability to finish the rallies—often by deception—usually wins. But Holding is only 20. When he is more experienced his anticipation may match the facility of his footwork.

Aziz had already beaten Britain's leading amateur, Philip Ayton. Last evening he defeated Stuart Courtney, ranked second to Ayton, by 9—5, 9—5, 9—0. Courtney had the better shots but was erratic in playing them. Aziz deserved credit for this, because the quickness and tenacity of his retrieving—which his opponent could not match—forced Courtney to reduce his margin of error to little or nothing in a desperate quest for winners. The Egyptian's game had just enough variety to work Courtney hard and as the matched progressed Aziz became increasingly confident without being reckless. His was an admirably disciplined, resolute and energetic exercise in the basic grammar of the game.

Show jumping

Family fortunes retrieved by Mrs Edgar

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Elizabeth Edgar and Everest Mayday, holders of the women's national title, won the Radio Rentals Christmas Cracker Stakes at the Olympia International Jumping Show yesterday.

Her brother, David Broome, set the target on Sportsman with a second clear round in 31.9 sec, which was good enough to hold Mick Saywell at bay on Harvey Smith and Trevor Banks's Spanish-bred Casique (33.6 sec).

But François Mathy and Gai Duron were clear in 33.1 sec and seemed poised to give Belgium their first win of the week until Mrs Edgar retrieved the family fortunes in a conclusive time of 30.2 sec.

Nelson Pessoa, the French-based Brazilian who has been show jumping in Europe for 20 years, rode the former British horse, Mr Punch, to win the Radio Rentals Stakes, the first important competition of the International Jumping Show at Olympia on Wednesday night. David Broome was runner-up, with the only other clear round in the final on Philco.

Nine horses qualified for the barrage and the West German world champion, Hartwig Steenken, set the standard

Pessoa, the Derby specialist who was also a winner at this show two years ago, has established an excellent rapport with John Greenwood's former horse, and this interesting new partnership was fast and accurate, wresting victory from Broome by 1.6sec with a time of 31.7sec.

RESULTS: Radio Rentals Christmas Cracker Stakes: 1, Mrs T. H. Edgar's Everest Mayday; 2, F. Mathy's Gai Duron (Belgium); 3, Harris Acrilan Carpets Sportsman (D. Broome). Radio Rentals Scribblers Stakes: 1, T. Hudson's White Heather (World of Sport); 2, T. Reece's Barbican (The Field); 3, B. Sorg's Nat West (Zurich). Radio Rentals Stakes: 1, N. Pessoa's Mr Punch (Brazil); 2, Harris Acrilan Carpets' Philco (D. Broome); 3, H. Steenken's Gladstone (West Germany). Celebrities and medallists pair relay: 1, Stirling Moss and David Broome; 2, Robin Gray and Harvey Smith; 3, Jimmy Hill and Ann Moore.

Hockey

British party to resume their preparation

By Sydney Friskin

Twenty-four hockey players, representing the Great Britain party, will resume their preparation for the Olympic Games in a training weekend to be held at Bishop's Stortford College on January 10 and 11. Twelve teams, to be selected by the Federation Internationale de Hockey at the end of January, will take part in the Olympic event in Montreal from July 18 to 30 next year.

This will be a good opportunity to try out various combinations in attack and defence before teams are selected for the representative matches to be played within the next six months. From what has already been seen, the standard of play has been encouraging and to help confirm this view two matches are to be played on January 11. The first will be against Lyons, starting at 11.0, the second against East Anglians (2.30).

PARTY: D. C. Aldridge (Southgate and England), R. L. Barker (Old Kingstonians and England), D. G. Blackmore (Liverpool Sefton and England), R. H. Brookeman (Hounslow and England), A. G. Carson (Antrim and Ireland), B. J. Cotton (Bishop's Stortford and England, captain), K. A. H. Dick (Inverleith and Scotland), B. R. Dyburry (Redditch and England), J. E. C. Foulkes (Hightown and Wales), P. C. Freitag (Old Kingstonians and England), J. C. French (Westcliff and England), T. A. Gregg (Belfast YMCA and Ireland), S. S. Khohar (Slough and England), S. R. L. Long (Bury St Edmunds YMCA and England), I. S. McGinn (Southgate and England), W. D. McLean (Edinburgh Civil Service and Scotland), P. R. J. Marsh (Barborne and Wales), P. A. Mills (Cardiff and England), N. R. Saldanha (Blackheath and England), C. Sutherland (Edinburgh Civil Service and Scotland), P. J. T. Svenlik (Beckenham and England), I. A. Thomson (Hounslow and England), D. B. Whitaker (Southgate and England), P. J. Wilson (Welsh Dragons and Wales).

Clearing the stage for five territorial champions

By Joyce Whitehead

The stage is set for some interesting territorial women's hockey tournaments almost immediately after Christmas. West (celebrating their 75th anniversary in January) have a six-day gathering at Weston-super-Mare from December 29 to January 3. Six of their teams have played only one match, Dorset beat Somerset, Wiltshire beat Cornwall and Devon drew with Herefordshire. Gloucestershire have not yet played a championship match. But Mrs Sadler and Mrs Malcom, both players of international fame, have returned to play for Gloucestershire this season after being out for several years. Whether two players can make a great difference remains to be seen but their names must spell anxiety to their opponents. So Gloucestershire, last season's West championship winners, will be hoping for great things.

Kent were East champions last season but they go to their tournament at Folkestone from December 28 to 31 tieing for second place with Hertfordshire. It is Suffolk, never far from the top, who have a slender one-point lead. This season the East draw still leaves each of the three top counties with two particularly keen matches to play in Folkestone.

In the South the holders, Surrey, have done well. They have won their four matches and scored 15 goals with none against. However, their two-point lead over the determined runners-up, Buckinghamshire and Middlesex, looks perhaps more convincing than it really is. In this territory they score three points for a win and one for a draw. In three of the others there are only two and one.

At both the North and Midlands tournaments there are nine counties. An Etceteras team is included in the North and Bedford CPE in the Midlands. Matches with these teams do not count for the championship. Durham and Northumberland in the North have each played four, the other seven counties only three. So Durham's two-point lead over Lancashire and Sheffield League means a close contest to follow. Durham have won their four matches, Lancashire and Sheffield League their three and Lancashire have scored 18 goals to Durham's 14 and the League's seven. So this tournament at St Anne's-on-Sea from December 28 to 31 will be an exciting one.

In the Midlands something strange will have to happen at the tournament in Bedford from December 30 to January 3 if Leicestershire, the holders, are to be in the top half. Their results have been four 1—1 draws. They seemed to have so many players that their captain, Mrs Batterham, who played with the English touring team in Jamaica during the summer, was dropped. Of the teams which have also played four matches Staffordshire (last season's runners-up) are in the lead with seven points and Nottinghamshire close behind with six.

By January 3 the five territorial county champions will be known as well as the five territorial teams for 1976.

Rugby Union

End of first round except for Orrell and Sale

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

The elimination of the holders, Bedford, in their John Player Cup match at Northampton on Wednesday evening has left one first round match to be played—that between Orrell and Sale, which is scheduled for Sunday week.

The rugby fraternity will not have found it easy to keep abreast of the results so far in the competition, but the picture will be much clearer next season when results are played on dates set by the RFU. The draw for the second round will be made by Sam Millar, the chairman of the RFU club competitions sub-committee, at Twickenham on the afternoon of December 29.

FIRST ROUND: Plymouth Albion 3, Gloucester 9; Penryn 30, St Luke's College 7; Bath 13, Bristol 24; Rosslyn Park 31, Marlow 3; London Welsh 21, Richmond 3; London Scottish 14, Wasps 0; Havant 12, Thurrock 4; London Irish 16, Saracens 3; Kettering 12, Coventry 20; Northampton 9, Bedford 6; Gosforth 35, Hartlepool Rovers 9; Headingley 4, Roundhay 6; Moseley 26, Nottingham 12; Maidenhead 0, Wakefield 20; Liverpool 10, Leicester 7.

Preece withdraws

Peter Preece, Coventry's international centre, has withdrawn from the final England trial at Twickenham tomorrow. He injured his head when playing against the Australians last week and his place in the Rest team to meet England is taken by David Cooke, of Harlequins.

Southwell results

11.0 (11.01) CHRISTMAS PARTY HURDLE (Div I: Part 1: 3-y-o: £340: 2m)
Crimson Glove, b g, by Falcon—Crimson Velvet (Mrs D. Haynes), 10-12 .... R. Barry (8-1) 1
Ordnance Hill, ro g, by Town Crier—Eruption (R. Reeder), 11-5 I. Watkinson (6-1) 2
Dolarum, b g, by Creme de la Creme—Rumpled (Mrs M. Allsopp), 10-12 B. R. Davies (6-4 fav) 3
ALSO RAN: 4-1 Tender Music (pu), 10-1 Tingalary, 12-1 Windmill Boy, 14-1 Cabarita (pu), Golden Heritage, 20-1 Fiffa (4th), Precious Hope, Sueliz (pu), Rirshell, Jolly Sweet, Muer Lady, Uncle Nawby. 15 ran.
TOTE: Win, 76p; places, 36p, 64p, 12p. H. Collingridge, at Newmarket. Nk, 2½l.

11.30 (11.33) CHRISTMAS PARTY HURDLE (Div II: Part 1: 3-y-o: £340: 2m)
Dyscolo, ch c, by Sassafras—Madina (Mrs N. Fenton), 11-5 R. G. Hughes (4-7 fav) †
Litigant, ch g, by Aggressor—Barlotta (Mrs D. Green), 10-12 D. Munro (7-1) †
Spacer, b g, by Space King—Aldon (T. Crowe), 10-12 S. Holland (14-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 8-1 Night Adventure, 16-1 Hedgewood, Shesheen, 20-1 Carib Blue, Diamond Ada, 33-1 Night Messenger (4th), Gold Fire, Captain Eustace (pu), Abbey Farm, Faustine, Graphite, Katie's Girl, Western Gambler. 16 ran.
TOTE: Win, Dyscolo 8p, Litigant 34p; places, Dyscolo 12p, Litigant 15p, Spacer 30p. Dyscolo trained by P. Mitchell, at Epsom. Litigant trained by Lady Herries, at York. Dead heat, 4l. Now Suspect did not run.

12.0 (12.03) CHRISTMAS BOX HURDLE (Div I: £272: 2m)
Connecticut, b g, by Groton—Resourceful (F. Forn), 4-12-0 M. Blackshaw (11-10 fav) 1
Yule Log, b g, by Firestreak—Christmas (Mrs D. Wintle), 3-10-3 .... M. Williams (6-1) 2
Corman, br g, by Space King—Eastern Promise (S. Flower), 3-10-4 .... G. Holmes (10-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 8-1 Dollwood Prince, Mayoo, 10-1 Otaki, 12-1 Killogan, 14-1 Burleycroft Star, 33-1 Roussillon (4th), Go Easy, Wenlock Edge, Melody Might, Narlu Mani Poum. 13 ran.
TOTE: Win, 35p; places, 14p, 21p, 23p. J. Hardy, Staunton. 2½l, 5l. Little Burglar did not run.

12.30 (12.32) CHRISTMAS PARTY HURDLE (Div I Part II. 3-y-o: £340: 2m)
Smiling, b f, by Silly Season—Costinary (S. Spokes), 10-12 R. Champion (7-4 fav) 1
Derry Veagh, ch g, by Prince Hansel—Deidre's Money (K. Hitchman), 10-12 P. Blacker (8-1) 2
Palace Street, b c, by Sovereign Path—Shandon Belle (Mrs D. Bowlby), 10-12 B. R. Davies (11-2) 3
ALSO RAN: 5-2 Friendly Steve (f), 14-1 Sunafrag (bd), 20-1 Indebar, 33-1 Karri-Ha-Pa (4th), Adored, Blast's Queen, Miss Dallas, Sapunies Girl, Teolhuacan, Twisung Emma, Valley Dancer. 14 ran.
TOTE: Win, 22p; places, 14p, 12p, 25p. W. Wharton, Melton Mowbray. 1l, hd.

1.0 (1.02) CHRISTMAS BOX HURDLE (Div II: £272: 2m)
Turk, ch g, by Native Prince—Devon Chimes (Rex Carter), 3-10-4 .... D. Briscoe (12-1) 1
Our Fantasy, br c, by Linacre—Cuarun Cooll (Sir M. Wilson), 3-9-11 .... A. Carroll (16-1) 2
My Mark, b f, by On Your Mark—Q.E.D. (J. Cowley), 3-10-4 J. James (20-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Ladyrullah (4th), 4-1 What A Performance, 6-1 Ring Money, 7-1 Celtic Rose, 10-1 Shermaggie, 12-1 Charlie Battle, 14-1 Say It All (pu), 16-1 Phantasy, 33-1 High Phoenix, Alcide Honey, Laurel Do. 14 ran.
TOTE: Win, £1.28; places, 57p, £1.28, 82p. R. Carter, Swaffham. 5l, 1½l.

1.30 (1.33) CHRISTMAS STOCKING STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £544: 3m 110yds)
Napoleon Brandy, br g, by Trombone—Wedding Brandy (D. Stoddart), 8-10-11 B. R. Davies (6-4 fav) 1
Carpette, b m, by Tacitus—Lovanwar (P. Form), 6-10-9 M. Blackshaw (7-1) 2
Flyarvale, ch g, by Charlottesvilles Flyer—Quvenvale (M. Armytage), 7-9-13 H. J. Evans (25-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 7-4 Nevock Royal (4th), 13-1 Sunny Chief (pu), 14-1 Hipping (pu), 33-1 Dalkei, Shy Spirit (ur). 8 ran.
TOTE: Win, 21p; places, 13p, 24p, £2.27; dual forecast, 62p. D. Morley, Bury St Edmunds. 1l, 8l. Spoilt, Gramophone did not run.

2.0 (2.02) CHRISTMAS TREE STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £340: 2m 74yds)
John's Knapp, b g, by Warwick—Knapp's Charm (Mrs W. Lopinrs-ton), 7-10-1 R. R. Evans (14-1) 1
Mazine Bivouac, b g, by Bivouac—Cashmere Image (Miss A. Hill-Wood), 6-11-2 S. Holland (17-2) 2
King's Savings, b g, by King's Leap—Savings (Mrs H. Vernon), 6-10-10 .... K. Gray (17-2) 3
ALSO RAN: 3-1 fav Young Somers (4th), 11-2 Dites Denc (f), 6-1 Holly Park, 12-1 Our Arthur (pu), 14-1 Three Freds, Plain Pilgrim (pu), 33-1 Antoni H (ur), Soul Music, Pollock Fair, Silberto. 13 ran.
TOTE: Win, £1.15; places, 31p, 27p, 42p. M. Tate, Kidderminster. 1½l, 10l.

2.30 (2.31) CHRISTMAS CAKE HURDLE (Handicap: £544: 2½m)
Goldberg, b g, by Petingsburg—Khuva (S. Spokes), 4-10-7 R. Champion (20-1) 1
Idro, b g, by Espresso—Condora (Mrs E. Done), 7-10-3 S. O'Neill (25-1) 2
Romany Star, b g, by Sky Gipsy—Hello Darling (F. Kent), 4-10-11 G. Shaw (8-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 3-1 jt fav Inshalla (f), Old Chad (4th), 7-2 Water Colour, 10-1 Roynham, 20-1 Another Fred, Charlie Dip, Happy Councillor (pu), Irish Bosdal, 25-1 Bastillion, Orpoir, Bud, Mustard and Cress, My Ribero. 16 ran.
TOTE: Win, £3.59; places, 47p, 35p, 20p, 33p. W. Wharton, Melton Mowbray. 1½l, 5l.

3.0 (3.02) CHRISTMAS PARTY HURDLE (Div II: Part II: 3-y-o: £340: 2m)
Targe, br c, by Will Somers—Soundless (Mrs A. Allum), 11-5 J. Francome (10-11 fav) 1
Captain Nolan, b c, by Queen's Hussar—Iranla (Mrs A. Logan), 10-12 .... P. Blacker (5-1) 2
Fine Fashion, b f, by Hardicanute—Fine Boy (Mrs E. Ingham), 10-12 .... J. James (20-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 5-1 Sonny's Pride, 10-1 Scared Kingston (f), 12-1 Running Tiger (f), Smokey Prince, Thirlstane Boy, 14-1 Cloud Smoke, 20-1 Busy's Boy, King's Happy Countryman, Karelia, 15 ran. Oracle, Mon Caira, Valauris.
TOTE: Win, 10p; places, 12p, 20p, 76p. F. T. Winter, Lambourn. 12l, 8l. Nicola Lisa did not run.
TOTE DOUBLE: Connecticut, Turk, £93.70. TREBLE: Litigant, Smiling, Napoleon Brandy, £5.45.

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LEGAL NOTICES also on page 26

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matters of No. 000558 of 1975 CHONHALL PROPERTIES Limited, No. 000559 of 1975 RAYMOND HOWARD MODELS Limited, No. 000560 of 1975 TINSLEY INVESTMENTS Limited and In the Matter of The Companies Act, 1948.

Notice is hereby given that PETITIONS for the WINDING UP of the above named Companies by the High Court of Justice were on the 11th day of December, 1975, presented to the said Court by The Commissioners of Inland Revenue, of Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 1LB and that the said Petitions are directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, on the 16th day of January, 1976, and any creditor or contributory of any of the said Companies desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on any of the said Petitions may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel, for that purpose, and a copy of the Petition will be furnished to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring the same by the undersigned on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

ERIC MOSES, Solicitor of Inland Revenue, Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 1LB.

NOTE.—Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of any of the said Petitions must serve on or send by post to the above-named notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their Solicitor (if any) and must be served, or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than four o'clock in the afternoon of the 16th day of January, 1976.

No 003050 of 1975.

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matter of SOUTHWOOD & SQUIRE Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act, 1948.

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION for the WINDING UP of the above-named Company by the High Court of Justice was on the 8th day of December 1975 presented to the said Court by The Commissioners of Inland Revenue, of Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 1LB and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, on the 19th day of January 1976, and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel for that purpose, and a copy of the Petition will be furnished to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring the same by the undersigned on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

ERIC MOSES, Solicitor of Inland Revenue, Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 1LB.

NOTE.—Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve on or send by post to the above-named notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their Solicitor (if any) and must be served, or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than four o'clock in the afternoon of the 16th day of January, 1976.

No. 59 of 1975

IN the ST. ALBANS COUNTY COURT

In the Matter of LEONARD ROBERT GREEN of 91, Station Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Notice is hereby given that a Bankruptcy PETITION against the above was, on the 19th day of September, 1975, PRESENTED to the said Court by JOSEPH WILFRID WILLIAM HUNTRODS trading as Midland Commercial Services, 6, College Street, Northampton NN1 2QP, and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at 36/38 London Road, St. Albans, on the 12th day of January, 1976, at 10.30 a.m., and any creditor of the said Leonard Robert Green desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel for that purpose; and a copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor of the said Leonard Robert Green requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

JOSEPH WILFRID WILLIAM HUNTRODS, Midland Commercial Services, 6, College Street, Northampton. The Petitioner.

Note: Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve on, or send by post to the above-named Notice in writing of his intention so to do. The Notice must state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their solicitor (if any) and must be served, or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than 4.00 o'clock in the afternoon of the 9th day of January, 1976.

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE in BANKRUPTCY No. 2408 of 1975

Re: Murray NATHAN of Abbotswood, The Pastures, London, N20 COMPANY DIRECTOR and CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (Under Receiving Order and Adjudication Order both dated 19th November 1975). First Meeting of Creditors 8th January 1976 at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon at Room 410/4th Floor, Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LY. Public Examination 7th April 1976 at 11 o'clock in the forenoon at Court 46 (Queen's Building), Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL.

JAMES TYE, Official Receiver.

N.B.—All debts due to be paid to me.

In the Matter of The Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967 and in the Matter of BERNARD McMANUS DEVELOPMENTS Limited (in Liquidation).

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of The Companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. Cork, Gully & Co., Chartered Accountants, of 19, Eastcheap, London, EC3M 1DA, on Tuesday the 13th day of January, 1976, at 11.30 a.m., to be followed at 11.32 a.m. by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS for the purpose of receiving an account of the Liquidator's Acts and Dealings and of the conduct of the Winding-up to date.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1975.

D. W. HAWKINS, Liquidator.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 003626 of 1975

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court. In the Matter of FILMBUS LTD. FILMS Limited and in the Matter of The Companies Act 1948.

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION for the WINDING UP of the above named Company was on the 4th November 1975 presented to the said Court by Particonstruct Productions Limited whose registered office is situate at 50 Elder Street London E1 6DF.

And that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice Strand, London, WC2 on Monday the 19th day of January 1976 and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel for that purpose and a copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

HIGGS THOMPSON & SAMWELL, 2 Tudor Court, Brighton Road, Sutton, Surrey, Solicitor for the Petitioning Creditor.

NOTE any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve or send by post to the above named notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name and address of the person or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm and must be signed by the person or firm or his or their Solicitor (if any) and must be served or if posted must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above named not later than 1 o'clock in the afternoon of the 24th January, 1976.

In the Matter of The Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967 and in the Matter of PARRISH DEVELOPMENTS Limited (in Liquidation).

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of The Companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. Cork, Gully & Co., Chartered Accountants, of 19, Eastcheap, London, EC3M 1DA, on Tuesday the 13th day of January, 1976, at 11.40 a.m. to be followed at 11.42 a.m. by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS for the purpose of receiving an account of the Liquidator's Acts and Dealings and of the conduct of the Winding-up to date.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1975.

D. W. HAWKINS, Liquidator.

No. 004126 of 1975

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matter of A.F. BRENNAN AND COMPANY Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948

NOTICE is hereby given that a PETITION for the WINDING UP of the above named Company by the High Court of Justice was on the 15th day of December, 1975 presented to the said Court by Clayer Insurance Company Limited, whose Registered Office is at Hermitage House, 28 29 Dover Street, London, W.1 and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at The High Court of Justice, Strand, London, W.C.2 on Monday, 26th January, 1976, and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desirous to support or oppose the making of any Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel for that purpose and a copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

HIGGS THOMPSON & SAMWELL, 2 Tudor Court, Brighton Road, Sutton, Surrey, Solicitor for the Petitioning Creditor.

NOTE any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve or send by post to the above named notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name and address of the person or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm and must be signed by the person or firm or his or their Solicitor (if any) and must be served or if posted must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above named not later than 1 o'clock in the afternoon of the 24th January, 1976.

In the Matter of The Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967 and in the Matter of ORCHARD HOUSE PROPERTIES Limited (in Liquidation).

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of The Companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of W. H. Cork, Gully & Co., Chartered Accountants, of 19, Eastcheap, London, EC3M 1DA, on Tuesday, the 13th day of January, 1976, at 11.35 a.m., to be followed at 11.37 a.m. by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS for the purpose of receiving an account of the Liquidator's Acts and Dealings and of the conduct of the Winding-up to date.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1975.

D. W. HAWKINS, Liquidator.

In the Matter of The Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967 and in the Matter of C. B. JOLLEY & CO. Ltd. (In Liquidation).

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the Companies Act, 1948, that MEETINGS of the MEMBERS and CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. Cork, Gully & Co., Chartered Accountants of 19, Eastcheap, London, EC3M 1DA on Wednesday, the 7th day of January 1976, at 2.15 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. respectively for the purpose mentioned in Section 299 of the said Act.

Dated this 10th day of December, 1975.

N. B. CORK, Liquidator.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

CITY OF LIMA (THE HONOURABLE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF LIMA)

5% FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS 1911

LLOYDS BANK INTERNATIONAL Limited, 40/66 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4EL, announce that COUPONS due January 1 1976 of the City of Lima (The Honourable Provincial Council of Lima) 5 per cent First Mortgage Bonds 1911, may be lodged for payment, but must be left an appropriate period for examination.

Coupons will not be accepted through the post.

DRAWING OF BONDS

CITY OF BERLIN 6% (NOW 4½%) STERLING LOAN 1927

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in carrying out the operation of the Sinking Fund of 1st January, 1976, in respect of the above Loan, the undermentioned Bonds amounting to £48,260 were this day DRAWN by lot by Edwin Bruce Walker (of Messrs. De Pinna, Scorers & John Venn), Notary Public, for REPAYMENT at PAR on the 1st January, 1976, from which date all interest thereon will cease:—

8 BONDS for £1,000 each

48	54	110	184	206	237	255	265

32 BONDS for £500 each

416	418	435	475	646	649	658	659	924	983
1005	1033	1036	1052	1055	1062	1079	1085	1097	1129
1174	1235	1238	1288	1310	1325	1342	1356	1380	1398
1421	1712								

237 BONDS for £100 each

1796	1803	1855	1931	1936	1954	1957	1961	1967	1988
1993	2042	2127	2142	2180	2181	2316	2317	2326	2358
2367	2387	2392	2451	2523	2524	2550	2551	2573	2655
2658	2770	2777	2917	2919	2927	2994	3009	3136	3227
3231	3244	3269	3274	3332	3349	3351	3363	3404	3406
3453	3691	3704	3713	3734	3878	3922	3960	4034	4120
4192	4193	4257	4262	4278	4303	4321	4439	4474	4500
4566	4710	4735	4791	4862	5001	5035	5263	5300	5349
5350	5380	5502	5512	5586	5661	5709	5743	5805	5824
5841	5844	5845	5846	5847	5866	5938	5942	5953	5957
5966	5970	6039	6065	6074	6082	6115	6124	6159	6182
6183	6191	6308	6323	6332	6340	6359	6363	6389	6402
6416	6456	6482	6509	6511	6569	6598	6605	6628	6724
6727	6758	6773	6830	6866	6887	7140	7260	7391	7452
7528	7591	7598	7684	7740	7762	7838	7873	7909	7928
7929	7977	8030	8068	8092	8099	8230	8347	8369	8441
8443	8485	8539	8711	8760	8764	8932	8951	9060	9061
9101	9114	9249	9261	9294	9336	9338	9344	9596	9601
9652	9682	9692	9702	9784	9832	9875	9887	9976	9985
10012	10049	10058	10074	10161	10163	10185	10189	10232	10288
10354	10438	10561	10630	10640	10742	10746	10911	10939	10958
10978	11389	11446	11457	11640	11745	11766	11783	11831	11892
11918	11984	12064	12184	12248	12255	12343	12395	12401	12406
12416	12437	12476	12675	13016	13133	13311			

28 BONDS for £20 each

14364	14460	14603	14690	14708	14785	14871	14917	14986	14998
15013	15058	15074	15092	15270	15314	15431	15449	15465	15483
15586	15647	15671	15686	15731	15774	15782	15872		

RECAPITULATION

8 Bonds for £1,000 each		£ 8,000
32 Bonds for £ 500 each		£16,000
237 Bonds for £ 100 each		£23,700
28 Bonds for £ 20 each		£ 560
		£48,260

The above-mentioned Bonds with coupons due 1st July, 1976, and subsequently attached may be lodged for repayment on or after 1st January, 1976, at the office of J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited, Coupon Department, 120 Cheapside, London, E.C.2, between the hours of ten and two o'clock.

London, 15th December, 1975.

NORWEGIAN STATE & MUNICIPAL POWER CONSORTIUM LOAN (STATKRAFTVERK KRAFTSELSKAP) U.S.$25,000,000 8¼% 20 Year External Loan of 1965

Bondholders of the above Loan are advised that the redemption due on the 20th January 1976, i.e. U.S.$1,448,000 (Nominal) has been effected by purchase.

HAMBROS BANK Limited.

19th December 1975.

CITY OF BERLIN 6% (NOW 4½%) STERLING LOAN 1927

NOTICE is hereby given that the COUPONS due January 1, 1976 from New Bonds of the above Loan may now be presented at the Offices of J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited, Coupon Department, 120 Cheapside, London, E.C.2, between the hours of 10 and 2 o'clock.

London, December 19, 1975.

The condition of Britain: A study in psychology

Everybody seems to agree that the economic and political situation in Britain is pretty near the end of the line. Most would attribute this to bad government, poor management, irresponsible labour unions and a growing distaste for work.

Such explanations would be easy to accept if the greatness of the British people had not so clearly manifested itself, collectively during the war, and individually in all walks of life: Keynes, Flemming, Churchill, Shaw, the Beatles; over the years 82 Nobel prize winners (versus 59 for Germany and 120 for the United States); the most readable and well-informed press in the world; the best car in the world; the City; the immense and seductive charm of the British Way of Life. Why despair? And yet there is a collapse in the kind of dynamic leadership and individual and collective adaptability, responsibility and discipline, indispensable in a modern industrial state. What is the reason?

Before trying to answer the question it might be useful to set right some few facts. The pound, for one, has for at least the past 10 years, been consistently undervalued. Thus, the real "satisfaction level" derived from every pound spent in Britain, has been higher than would have been the case with equivalent amounts in most other currencies, spent in their countries of origin, and calculated at the official rate of exchange.

In many respects, the standard of living in the United Kingdom is as high as anywhere you may care to look.

Internationally, British prices have, in most meanings of the expression, been competitive. The reason why export, nevertheless, has not held up is to a large extent because of sloppy workmanship, uncertain delivery dates, and an amateurish approach to selling abroad.

The failing export performance could only be compensated by increasing reliance on loans to finance imports. This could only be sustained as long as the pound was a respectable world currency. The pound may now have reached a rate of decline which will eventually bring it close to the dollar. It can no longer be defended by financial artifice, but only through a sound flow of export. This, in turn, can scarcely be achieved in the present climate. Thus, the first question is: what are the underlying and fundamental reasons for the long slide of the British economy?

An important fact is that the mentality and the machinery of an interventionist war economy has never been properly demobilized. On the contrary, intervention, control and public ownership has now become so entrenched in the British economy, that the whole pattern of competition, profitability and change has been thoroughly perverted. Victory in two world wars seemed to be a confirmation that all was well, whereas the vanquished nations—Germany and Japan predominantly—had to change policies and methods in all spheres of life. The structural adaptation of the British economy has been blocked and no fundamental improvement can be achieved by mainly relying on anti-cyclical and monetary policies. Keynes is indispensable, but far from enough. The theological battles how to interpret and apply the gospel of the prophet may even have *détourné les esprits* from the main problems.

Productivy at unacceptable levels

Such attitudes, coupled to the facts mentioned above, have brought British productivity down to unacceptable levels. *The Financial Times* collated statistical data in June this year which illustrated some of the gaps in productivity (mainly based on 1973 figures). For example, output per capita in *airlines* was £19,200 for SAS, compared to £11,000 for British airways. In *aerospace*, Dassault, the French company, produced £20,000 per capita, versus £7,000 for British aerospace. In *coal* the German Saarbergwerke produced £13,500 compared to £3,000 for the National Coal Board. Opel produced £18,500 and Volvo £16,000 versus British Leyland's £7,700. The output per capita in *railways* was £9,700 for the Netherlands, £8,000 for Switzerland and £3,200 for Britain. In *Shipbuilding* Rijn-Schelde Vrlme., the Dutch company, produced £12,000 per capita, versus £3,700 for British shipbuilders. In *steel* the German company Thyssen produced £21,100, the Italian company Italsider £14,300 and British Steel only £8,100. In *transport* German Kuhn & Nagel produced £45,300, Swiss Panalpina Weltspt. £33,300, London Transport £2,800.

These figures should be taken for no more than rough estimates. But as such they are significant.

There are, however, exceptions. One is the City. Its worldwide contact surface and its daily fight on the international markets has made it one of the most viable economic units, if that is the word, in the world. It is also clear that first or second generation immigrants, who have had to fight their way up, have to a remarkable degree shown the possibility of success and viability in the British economy. These men have probably been less bound by tradition and convention than their "purebred" British counterparts.

What structural changes are necessary for a solution? To find an answer, let us first look at the kind of medicine which has brought success to a number of other countries of such diverse dimensions and backgrounds as France, Germany, Japan, Switzerland, Sweden and the United States. These countries have all, to a greater or lesser degree, adhered to most or all of the following principles:

Private enterprise is dominant. State ownership, control or direct intervention is limited;

A close cooperation exists between government, private enterprise and labour;

The tax system favours enterprise and profitability;

There is a high standard of education;

Enterprise is exposed to a high degree of national and/or international competition;

An open mind and positive attitude prevails towards new technology, new methods and improved organization (including work distribution on the shopfloor);

There is a well developed system of communication and transportation.

If you check these points with the corresponding British characteristics, you find many obvious deviations. In Great Britain, state ownership and intervention is widespread and increasing. Cooperation between government and private enterprise is certainly not well-developed and some key labour unions are riddled with Communist infiltration, often due to undemocratic and uncontrolled voting arrangements. Taxes are highly unfavourable for enterprise and the standard of education does not measure up to the possibilities inherent in the British people. National and international competition has been hampered by subsidies and an insular approach. The transportation system is underdeveloped and so are telephone and telex communications. Though there is a tremendous interest in and propensity for innovation, research and development, the necessary link with a realistic market approach is missing. The attitude towards new methods—the willingness to forego tradition and habits in work—is on the whole negative and inflexible.

The fundamental issue concerns the choice between change and tradition. Improving living standards can in the long run only be achieved by rising productivity, which calls for change. To an outsider it would seem possible to achieve at least some degree of progress in this respect without sacrificing the more pleasant traits of tradition. Better telephone and telex systems, some road improvements, some reorganization of shopfloor practices, somewhat more take-home pay for more work or ingenuity, etc. All this seems possible while retaining the British way of life.

But this touches upon imponderable problems of psychology. Britain may be the first country to be—in a psychological sense—in the post industrial phase of development. Perhaps it is just not mentally possible to accept even modest changes in habits and traditions indispensable for a rate of economic progress commensurate with that of say Japan, Germany or Sweden. But life in these countries maybe is harsher, duller, greyer, less charming, at least at present, when the differences in progress have not made the divergencies in economic standards between the growth economies and the British too obvious and glaring.

However, some countries, such as France and Switzerland, seem to have struck a balance between change and tradition, pleasure and progress, which allows for a continued improvement in living conditions. So it may, after all, not be necessary to sink because you do not want to swim.

Baron Carl Henriak von Platen

Former Swedish Ambassador to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

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Tradition claims a price

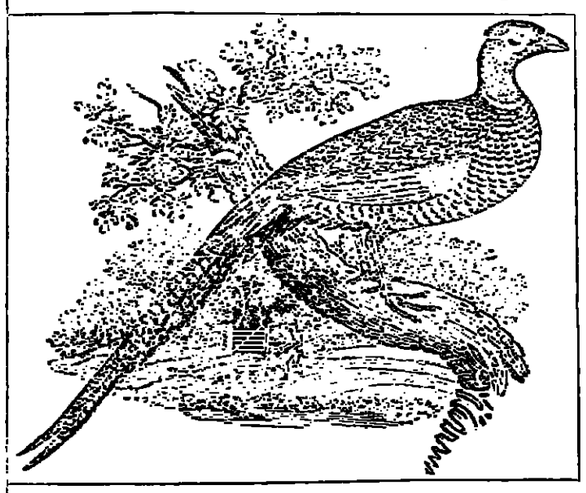
The greatness of the British nation has often been linked to three qualities: a will to muddle through; a stubborn refusal to give in; and a tendency to stick to tradition. Dinner jackets in the jungle may be splendid, but tradition claims a price.

Industries such as shipbuilding and aircraft are traditional. And so Britain has subsidized them to keep them alive. But all industry gradually becomes non-viable if it lives on subsidies for long. We cannot afford more than a certain amount and a certain kind of tradition without having to pay for it in profitability and efficiency.

Tradition from the days of the Empire on one side, and linguistic problems on the other, have fostered a kind of isolation in England vis-à-vis the non-English speaking countries of the world, which is not commensurate with the British dependence on international trade and international cooperation. In the field of diplomacy there is a singular lack of international outlook and true comprehension for the usefulness of international cooperation. The Civil Service, on the whole, is brilliant and knowledgeable, but astonishingly insular in its approach to international problems. The Treasury seems mainly interested in keeping down contributions to all forms of international cooperation.

London may say that Paris—the Quai d'Orsay—has been difficult in international negotiations. But there is a great difference between British and French attitudes. The French defend French interests, nearly always brilliantly and wisely.

With prices rising, a bird in the hand is worth a lot this year



"Cold weather has held up sprout picking." That laconic statement from Mrs Shirley Williams's Department for Prices and Consumer Protection made a suitably glum introduction to a list of expected increases in the prices of fresh food for the weekend.

"There is a temporary shortage of tomatoes", the department continued. It said that they would probably cost between 30p and 35p a pound, while cucumbers would rise to as much as 35p each. A few weeks ago they could be found for less than 20p.

The department also said that frozen turkeys cost between 36p and 40p a pound, a bizarre conclusion in view of the Price Commission's comment at the start of the month that the average price was above 40p a pound.

Traders say that there are severe shortages in some areas, particularly of fresh birds. Prices have risen accordingly, in stark contrast to the week preceding Christmas 1974, when traders had more birds than they could sell.

This year they are in the happier position of watching prices climb as customers clamour for more turkeys than the market can supply. Traders in all parts of England reported yesterday that fresh turkeys were becoming scarce and expensive. Mr Leslie Marshall, president of the National Federation of Meat Traders, said he had been offered fresh turkeys on the wholesale market at 57p a pound. Butchers in the Midlands, West Country and North of England quoted prices for fresh turkeys between 52p and 58p a pound. But they could not all supply a wide range of weights.

The Sainsbury store chain said yesterday that next week it would have fresh turkeys at 49p a pound, but did not quote the weights available. It said that frozen birds would start at 40p a pound. Independent butchers stressed that all turkeys, especially fresh, were hard to come by in a variety of weights, and that customers who had ordered early would reap tangible benefits.

Mr Marshall said fresh turkeys now cost 6p a pound more than those ordered early. All of that highlights the desirability of eating something else at Christmas, except that unlike last year everything else has increased, too. Mrs Williams's officials said yesterday that the price of beef this weekend would probably be 4p to 6p higher than a week ago. "Demand for choice cuts has risen", they said.

Game is also thin on the ground. Although the weather has improved, the market is sluggish because poulterers are concentrating on festive poultry. Harrods said yesterday that it would have charged £4.70 for a brace of pheasants in its food hall if any had been available.

The Keymarkets chain has issued a comprehensive list of game from one supplier which, it says, can be bought immediately or ordered through 33 branches with game licences. The 33 range from East Anglia to Somerset and include several in Essex and Suffolk as well as Chippenham, Wiltshire; Leicester; Bath; Newbury; Alton and Farnham, in Hampshire; and Stafford.

Prices are surprisingly low with young grouse at £1.15 each, mallard at £1.38 and young quail at 52p each. Frozen venison is offered at £1.25 a pound, cut unspecified, partridges at £1.20 each, widgeon and teal at 64p each, and guinea fowl at £1 each. Those prices are remarkably low and compare well with the cost of poultry. Customers must judge for themselves if quality is as high as in independent shops.

Waitrose said that it had very little game left. What was available, however, was shot this year instead of being frozen since the 1974 shoot, as was the case with the stock it sold early in the year. It said it had about 130 birds at £1.80 for a cock bird and £2.10 for hen to share among four stores in Greater London and Wantage, Oxfordshire.

There are, of course, numerous brands of tinned meat and game available when the fresh run out. For those who leave their purchases to the very last moment there is a wide variety from tinned whole grouse at £3.30 each or more to frogs' legs at about 75p a tin and haggis without the skin at 32p.

For those with more traditional tastes there are fair supplies of fresh geese at a very high price of 87p to £1.30 a pound and fresh ducks at well over 50p a pound. Chickens offer unusually good value this year because they have largely escaped the inflation that has caught up other birds.

Frozen broilers can be found for as little as 23p a pound, although most will cost at least 27p.

Potato prices have risen so much in the past week that the Potato Marketing Board is worried that shoppers will turn to turnips and parsnips instead. A plastic bag of 5lb of potatoes is quite likely to cost 50p now, compared with 35p to 40p a week ago.

But amid the widespread increases, there are some notable reductions. Sea fish has gone down, in spite of the dispute with Iceland, so that cod fillets now start at about 62p a pound. Cuts of conger eel are an especially good buy now because they are quite common and hardly anybody wants them.

They cost between 45p and 50p a pound, and fillets of sea bream can be found for less than 55p a pound. Farm-bread trout are also common at 70p to 80p a pound and some fishmongers still have fresh mussels at prices that vary widely depending on area. Anything above 20p a pint is expensive.

Hugh Clayton





THE SCOTCH. THE GIN. THE SHERRY. THE GINGER WINE. THIS CHRISTMAS ADD A LITTLE DIFFERENCE TO YOUR DRINKING.

THE PIMM'S.

One of the nice things about Christmas is that it's always the same. The Christmas tree, the turkey, the plum pudding. The same carols our grandparents used to sing.

But all this tradition can sometimes wear a bit thin when you want a different drink.

May we suggest Pimm's.

We don't ask too much of you. Our bottle costs about the same as a bottle of spirits. Yet that's enough to make sixteen sparkling, golden thirst-quenching Pimm's.

It is easy to make, too. A good measure in a tall glass, three to four times as much lemonade and just a slice of lemon and a strip of cucumber.

Add ice but nothing else.

Soon after Mr. Pimm first mixed his marvellous brew in 1840, it became quite the thing at Christmas. So why don't you add a bottle or two of Pimm's to your Christmas drinks order?

It's nice to know you can be different and traditional both at the same time.

PIMM'S

You've heard of Pimm's. Isn't it time you drank a Pimm's?

ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area

OPERA AND BALLET

COVENT GARDEN. 240 1066 THE ROYAL BALLET Tonight 7.30 & Tomor. 2, Romeo and Juliet. Tomor. 7.30 The Four Seasons, [illegible] THE ROYAL OPERA Mon. 7.30 L'elisir d'amore: Some seats [illegible]

COLISEUM. 01-836 3161 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Tonight 7.30 LA BELLE HELENE. Tomor. 4.30 & Tue. 5.30 THE VALKYRIE Wed 7.00 SALOME

SADLER'S WELLS TH., Rosebery Ave., [illegible] Until March 20. Evg. 7.30 Mats. Weds., Sat. & Dec. [illegible] D'OYLY CARTE in GILBERT and SULLIVAN. Tonight and Tomor.: Pirates of Penzance. Mon. and Tue.: Iolanthe.

CONCERTS

ROYAL ALBERT HALL 01-589 8212 TONIGHT AT 7.30 p.m. Daniel Wayenberg, London Symphony Orchestra. Marc Soustrot, Conductor. Berlioz, Prokofiev, Ravel, Bernstein. Tickets £2.50, £2, £1.50, £1. Top. [illegible] available from Box Office.

AUTUMN AT SNAPE MALTINGS Saturday, 20th December, 8 p.m. PIANO RECITAL—FOU TS'ONG Chopin, Schubert, Debussy Booking now: Festival Office Tel.: 07 2283 2935

THEATRES

ADELPHI. 01-836 7611. Evgs. 7.30. Mat. Thur., Sat. & Box. Day 3.0 JEAN SIMMONS ANGELA BADDELEY JOSS ACKLAND in A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC "[illegible]" —Guardian.

ALBERY. 836 3878. Repertory Season. Tonight at 8. Tomorrow at 4.45, [illegible] Boxing Day 3.15 JANE LAPOTAIRE TIMOTHY WEST PAULINE JAMESON LYNN FARLEIGH "IMMENSELY CHARMING" S. Tel. ROOM WITH A VIEW "ENCHANTING EVENING" Punch Tomorrow 8.15, Mon., Tues. & Wed. [illegible] Boxing Day 4.45 A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY

ALDWYCH. 836 6404. Inf. 836 5332 Royal Shakespeare Company FOR FOUR WEEKS ONLY: Graham Greene's new comedy THE RETURN OF A. J. RAFFLES (Evening 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat. 2.30)

AMBASSADORS. 01-836 1171 5212 Evenings 8.0. Mat. Tues. [illegible] Sat & Boxing Day 5.30 & 8.30 HAPPY AS A SANDBAG THE WONDERFUL HIT MUSICAL "[illegible] fun of the Forties . . . delightful." Daily Express.

APOLLO THEATRE. 437 2663 DONALD PICKUP in The Award-winning Comedies by ALAN AYCKBOURN THE NORMAN CONQUESTS "BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR"—Evening Standard Drama Award. TABLE MANNERS. Tonight, Mon., Wed. 8.15 LIVING TOGETHER. Tomor. 5.00. [illegible] 8.15 ROUND & ROUND THE GARDEN Tomor. 8.30, Wed. 3.0.

ARTS THEATRE CLUB. 836 2132 [illegible] New Art St. (adj.) Leics. Sq. [illegible] Tonight 8.0 ANNE ROSS MIRIAM MARGOLYES KENNEDY'S CHILDREN "[illegible]" Barnes, N.Y. Tms.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE. 836 6056 Michael DENISON. Derek GRIFFITHS THE BLACK MIKADO "The best musical of 1975" S. Times Evgs. 8.0. Boxing Day. Dec. 27, Jan. 1 & 3 at 5.0 & 8.15 NO PERF. DECEMBER 25.

CASINO THEATRE. 01-437 6877 Tonight 7.30. Subs. Twice Daily at 2.30 & 7.30 (No perfs. Dec. 24, 25). DANNY LA RUE in a New Family Xmas Show QUEEN DANIELLA

COMEDY. 930 2578. Evgs. 8. Sats. 5.30 & 8.30. Mats. Thurs. 3. FRANCIS [illegible] AMANDA MATTHEWS LAWSON BARRIE A TOUCH OF SPRING Directed by Allan Davis "THIS JOYOUS COMEDY." Ev. News

CRITERION. 930 3216. Pic. Circus. Evgs. 8.15. Mat. Thur., Sat. 5.00 [illegible] ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD "Tom Stoppard's superb comedy." FT

DRURY LANE. 01-836 8108 Evgs. 7.30. Mat. Wed. & Sat. 2.30 MICHAEL CRAWFORD IN BILLY A NEW MUSICAL "MICHAEL CRAWFORD—A WHOPPING, WONDERFUL STAGE STAR." [illegible] of the World. HE AND HIS SHOW ARE A TREAT." S. Express.

DUCHESS. 836 8243. Evgs. 8.0. Fri., Sat., Box. Day & Dec. 29 at 6.15, 9.0. THEATRE CLOSED DECEMBER 22-25. OH! CALCUTTA! NOW IN ITS 6TH YEAR "Breathtakingly beautiful."—S. Tel. "The nudity is stunning."—D. Tel.

DUKE OF YORK'S. 836 5122. Mon.-Th. 8. Fri., Sat. & Bxg Day 5.30 & 8.30. LESLIE PHILLIPS, ROY KINNEAR "Two of the funniest men on the British stage. Laughs come thick and fast." ROGER'S LAST STAND

DUKE OF YORK'S. 01-836 5122. Richard Goolden, Ian Talbot in TOAD OF TOAD HALL Mats. Dec. 22-Jan. 17. Book now.

FORTUNE. 836 2238. Evenings 8.0 Fridays 9.0. Sat. 6.30 & 9.0 Boxing Day one perf. at 8. THE CHARLES PIERCE SHOW "Devastatingly funny."—Daily Mirror "WICKEDLY FUNNY."—E. News

GARRICK. 01-836 4601. Evgs. 8.15. Sat. & Boxing Day 6.0 & 8.40. RICHARD BRIERS "Marvellous" Gdn ABSENT FRIENDS "ALAN AYCKBOURN'S FINEST FUNNIEST PLAY."—Harold Hobson

GLOBE. 01-437 1592. Evenings 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat. & Boxing Day 3.0 RSC—For 11 WEEKS ONLY. JUDI DENCH IAN McKELLEN ANNA CALDER-MARSHALL in TOO TRUE TO BE GOOD By Bernard Shaw

GREENWICH. 858 7755. Tonight 8.0 Beckett Evening: Tomor. 2.30 & 8.0 Krapp's Last Tape & In Memory of Carmen Miranda.

GREENWICH. 858 7755 Dec. 26-Jan. 3 CAMELOT PIE FAMILY CHRISTMAS SHOW. Mats. 2.30. Evgs. 6.30 (Jan. 3 mat. only) and HINGE & BRACKET at 9.15.

GREENWOOD, London Bridge. 403 0592. Com. Dec. 22. Stars of TV's "Black Beauty." £3.00, £1.75, 80p. CINDERELLA

HAMPSTEAD. 722 9301. Kroetz's MORECAMBE. Tue.-Sat. 7.30. Sun. 8.15. Roger McGough's WORDPLAY Tue.-Sat. 9. Sun. 6.45 & 9.45. Tue.-Sun. 3.30 MR. BATT'S VARIETY SHOW WITH MR. PUNCH.

HAYMARKET. 930 9832. Evenings 8.0 Mat. Wed. 2.30. Sat. 5.0 & 8.15 Edward Woodward, Geraldine McEwan, Jennie Linden, Edward Hardwicke in Frederick Lonsdale's ON APPROVAL "YOU SHOULD RUSH TO SEE IT" Tel. "IT GOT MY APPROVAL" E.N.

HER MAJESTY'S. 930 6606. Evgs. 8. Mats. Wed. at 2.30. Sats. 5.45 and 8.30. Boxing Day 3 and 8. The New Hit African Musical IPI TOMBI "PULSATING MUSICAL" Evg. News. "The huge cast is superb" S. Tms.

KING'S HEAD. 226 1916. Evgs. 8.0. Dinner 7. MIRROR Company present Jean Genet's THE MAIDS Ends Tomor. 1.15 Nigel Stock, Prunella Gee in CAROL'S CHRISTMAS by Frank Marcus

KING'S ROAD THEATRE. 352 7488. Mon. to Th. 9.0. Fri., Sat. 7.30, 9.30 (Boxing Day at 7.30 only). THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW "Best MUSICAL OF THE YEAR." —Evening Standard drama award.

LITTLE ANGEL MARIONETTE SHOW 14 Dagmar Passage, N.1 01-226 1787 Saturday, Dec. 20th, 11 a.m. THE JALOPY SHOW Saturday, Dec. 20th, 3 p.m. AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS Extra Show at 5 p.m. AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS Sunday, Dec. 21st, 3 p.m. AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS

LYRIC. 01-437 3686. Evenings 8.0. Mat. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 & 8.30. JOAN PLOWRIGHT, HELEN MIRREN, JOHN MOFFATT, FRANK GRIMES in A new comedy by BEN TRAVERS THE BED BEFORE YESTERDAY "Wittiest sex comedy of the year" Evg. "The Seagull" ret'ns Jan. 1 in Rep.

MAYFAIR THEATRE. 01-629 3036 Tonight 8.30 Tomor. 5.0 & 8.0 Billie WHITELAW, Barbara FERRIS and Dinsdale LANDEN in ALPHABETICAL ORDER "[illegible] Frayn's comedy is a delight [illegible]" E. Stan. Last week.

MAYFAIR. 493 2031. From Monday SOOTY'S CHRISTMAS SHOW Daily 2.0, 4.0. Sat. 10.30, 2.0, 4.0.

MERMAID. 248 7656 Food 248 2835 Until Jan. 17. Booking now! Mats. daily 2.0 & 5.0. Evenings Jan. 2, 3, 9, 10, 17 at 8.15 GULLIVER'S TRAVELS with Mike D'Abo, William Rushton "Marvellous . . . of the Christmas shows I have seen this year, this is far and away the best value." Times.

NEW LONDON. 405 0072. Until Jan. 24 Daily 2.30, 5.30; Sat. 2.0, 5.0, 8.0. (NO PERF. XMAS DAY) SPIKE MILLIGAN, BERNARD MILES in the Mermaid Theatre's Award Winning Production of TREASURE ISLAND

NEW LONDON. 405 0072. Jan. 2 BRUCE FORSYTH in his own "one man" laughter show.

NEW VICTORIA. 01-834 0671 Opens Dec. 26 at 7.30. Mon.-Fri. 2.30 and 7.30. Sat. 2.30 & 7.30 David Hamilton, Adrienne Posta, Sally James, Christopher Beeny, Jenny Tomasin, Tommy Vance, Kenneth Connor in ALADDIN

OLD VIC. NATIONAL THEATRE. 928 7616. Tonight & Tues. at 7.30 Tomorrow 2.15 & 7.30: PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD by J. M. Synge Wed. at 7.0: HAMLET Some seats held for sale day of performance from 10 a.m.

OPEN SPACE. 380 4970. [illegible] ARTAUD AT RODEZ by Charles Marowitz. Tonight, tomor., Dec 27, 28 at 8.0 "A dazzling show . . . always excessively alive" Gdn: THE SHREW by Charles Marowitz after Shakespeare. Opens Tues. at 7.0. Dec. 24, 30, 31 at 8.0.

PALACE. 437 6834. Mon. to Th. 8.0. Fri. Sat. & Box. Day, 6.0 & 8.40. JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373 Twice Daily at 2.45 & 7.30. LULU, RON MOODY RACHEL GURNEY in PETER PAN

PHOENIX. 836 8611. Until Jan. 10. A. A. Milne's WINNIE THE POOH. Mat. Dly. 2 pm & Tues., Sat. 11 am.

PHOENIX THEATRE SEASON 1976 January 21 for 8 weeks only ROCK HUDSON JULIET PROWSE "I DO! I DO!" Nightly 8.0. Mat. Thur., Sat. 5.0 Tel. 01-836 8611.

PICCADILLY. 437 4506 Mon.-Thurs. 8. Fri. & Sat. 6, 8.40 ROYAL VARIETY HIT SHOW KWA ZULU "Probably the most compulsively enjoyable musical show in London." F.T. "A joyous occasion indeed." S. Exp. Now Booking to Feb. 1976

PICCADILLY. 437 4506. Opens Monday for 6 wks. only. Twice daily at 11 a.m. & 2.30 p.m. CHARLES DICKENS CHRISTMAS CAROL The story of Scrooge

PRINCE OF WALES. 01-930 8681 Evgs. 8.0 Fri., Sat. 5.30 & 8.30 NO PERFS. DECEMBER 24 & 25 HARRY SECOMBE "Lovable, clowning, excellent singing" [illegible] in THE PLUMBER'S PROGRESS

QUEEN'S THEATRE. 01-734 1166 Evenings 8.0. Mat. Thur. 3.0. Sat. & Boxing Day 5.30 & 8.30 (NO PERFS. December 23-25). ALAN BATES in OTHERWISE ENGAGED A new play by SIMON GRAY Directed by HAROLD PINTER

RAYMOND REVUEBAR THEATRE 734 1593. At 7 p.m., 9 p.m., 11 p.m. PAUL RAYMOND presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA '75 Open on Sundays from Jan. 4 Closed Christmas Day only.

REGENT. 323 2707. Evenings 8.30 Fri. Sat. 7.0 & 9.15 BOXING DAY one perf. at 9.15 2ND YEAR OF SENSATIONAL STAGE SHOW OF THE SEVENTIES LET MY PEOPLE COME AN ADULT MUSICAL "Never a dull moment."—E. News. 100 tickets held for sale at door.

ROUND HOUSE. 267 2564. Evgs. 8. Mats. Tomor.: Boxing Day, Jan. 27, 30, 31 and Jan 1 at 5.0. "for the 3rd year running LE GRAND MAGIC CIRCUS colourful, imaginative & humorous" FT.

ROYAL COURT. 730 1745. Last Perfs. Tonight at 8. Tomor. 5 & 8.30 TOM COURTENAY in THE FOOL by Edward Bond

ST. MARTIN'S. 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Tues. 2.45, Sats. & Bxg. Day 5 & 8 AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP WORLD'S LONGEST-EVER RUN 24th YEAR

SAVOY. 836 8888. Evs. 8. Sat. & Bxg. D. 5, 8. No Prf. Chrs. Eve. Barbara MULLEN and Derek BOND in AGATHA CHRISTIE'S MURDER IN THE VICARAGE

SHAFTESBURY. 836 6596. Evgs. 7.30 Mats. Sat., Box. Day, Dec. 27, 30, 31 Jan. 1 at 3.0. NO PERF. DEC. 25. ARTHUR LOWE JOHN LE MESURIER, CLIVE DUNN in DAD'S ARMY "Funny and touching . . . total artistic success."—Sunday Times.

SHAW THEATRE. 01-388 1394 7:84 Theatre Co. England presents YOCBO NOWT by John McGrath. Last week—Evenings 7.30.

SHAW. 01-388 1394. Until Jan. 10. KIDNAPPED AT CHRISTMAS A new comedy for children by WILLIS HALL. Today 11 a.m. & 2.30, tomor. 2.30 only. From Dec. 23 to Jan. 2: Daily 2.0 & 7.0, Dec. 24 perf. at 2.0 (No perfs. Dec. 25, 26). From Jan 5: Daily 2.0. Wed., Thurs., Sat. 5.0.

STRAND. 836 2660. Evgs. 8.0 Mat. Thurs. 3.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30 DORIS HARE Richard CALDICOT. Andrew SACHS NO SEX, PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH Directed by Allan Davis LONDON'S LONGEST LAUGH 5th Year Christmas parking allowed nearby.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD, E.15. 01-534 0310. Evs. 8. Mat. Thur. 2. NICKLEBY & ME! A New Dickens Musical for all the family

VAUDEVILLE. 836 9988. Evgs. 8. Tues. 2.45, Sats. & Bxg Day 5 & 8. Margaret LOCKWOOD Paul DANEMAN & Barrie INGHAM DOUBLE EDGE "SUPERB . . . the cleverest who-dun-it I have seen for years." D. Tel. Nearby streets NOT affected by Xmas Parking restrictions.

VICTORIA PALACE. 834 1317. Evgs. 8.0, Wed., Sat. & Box. day 6.0 & 8.45 MIKE YARWOOD in "THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE" ". . . greatly enjoyable revue."—Exp.

WEMBLEY EMPIRE POOL. Twice Daily at 2 & 6. Dec. 24 at 2 only. Dec. 26 & all Sats. 1, 2, 5 & 8. Lavish Ice Panto DICK WHITTINGTON Child, & O.A.P.'s ½ price most perfs. Ample pk'g. Pay at doors. 902 1234.

WESTMINSTER. 834 0283 Evgs. 7.30, Wed. & Sat. 2.30 Chichester Festival Theatre Production A NEW CHRISTMAS MUSICAL FOLLOW THE STAR "The Perfect Family Show". S. Ex. Additional Mats. Dec. 30 and Jan 1.

WHITEHALL. 930 6692/7765. Evgs. 8.0, Fri., Sat. 6.15, 8.45 BOXING DAY at 8.45 only. WHAT THE BUTLER SAW "FUNNIEST PLAY IN LONDON"—Vogue. MUST END JANUARY 10.

WINDMILL THEATRE. 437 6312 PAUL RAYMOND presents LET'S GET LAID Twice nightly at 7.0 & 9.0 2nd SENSATIONAL YEAR Closed Christmas Day only.

WYNDHAMS. 836 3028 Mon.-Fri. 8; Sats. 5 & 8. JOHN GIELGUD RALPH RICHARDSON National Theatre Production HAROLD PINTER'S NO MAN'S LAND Directed by PETER HALL "GREAT ACTING AT ITS HIGHEST PITCH." E.N. Must end Jan. 24.

YOUNG VIC (by Old Vic). 928 6363. Tdy 2 p.m. FANTASTIC FAIRGROUND for families & children: 8 p.m. ALL WALKS OF LEG (from JOHN LENNON). "T'was brillig" Guardian. "Hilarious" Times. Sat. 4 & 8.15 p.m. OTHELLO.

YOUNG VIC STUDIO. 928 6363. Dec. 29th 11 a.m., 30th & 31st, 2.30 p.m. KOVARI, master magician. 30th & 31st, 8 p.m. Arrabal's THE ARCHITECT and THE EMPEROR OF ASSYRIA.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051. From 8.15. Dng. & Dcg. At 9.30 New Revue SWEET TEMPTATION and at 11 p.m. ROLF HARRIS

CINEMAS

ABC 1 & 2, Shaftesbury Ave. 836 8861 Sep. Perfs. ALL SEATS BKBLE. 1: BARRY LYNDON (A). Wk. & Sun. 2.55, 7.55. Late show Tonight & Sat. 11.35. 2: DOG DAY AFTERNOON (X). Wk. & Sun. 2.00, 5.15, 8.15. Late show Sat. 11.15.

ACADEMY ONE. 437 2981. Joan Micklin Silver's HESTER STREET (U). Progs. 1.45, 4.00, 6.15, 8.35.

ACADEMY TWO. 437 5129. Miklos Jancso's ELEKTREIA (A) and Bela Bartok's THE MIRACULOUS MANDARIN (A). 2.40, 4.45, 6.50, 9.0.

ACADEMY THREE. 437 8819. Marcel Carnes LES ENFANTS DU PARADIS (A). Show times 2.45, 8.0.

CINECENTA, Leics. Sq. 930 0631/2. (1) SHAMPOO (X).

COLUMBIA. Shaftesbury Ave. (734 5414). CONFESSIONS OF A WINDOW CLEANER (X). 2.10 (not Sun.), 5.35, 9.00. BLAZING SADDLES (AA). 3.45, 7.15.

CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737. A WOMAN UNDER THE INFLUENCE (AA). Film at 3.45, 5.30, 8.15. Late show Saturday 11 p.m.

DOMINION. Tott. Ct. Rd. (580 9562) James Caan ROLLERBALL (AA). Sep. Progs. Wk. 1.15, 4.15, 8.00. Sun. 3.00, 8.00. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.40. All seats may be booked.

EMPIRE Leicester Square. ONCE IS NOT ENOUGH (AA). Progs. Daily 2.30, 5.30, 8.30. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.30 p.m. Sep. Perfs. All seats bookable. No phone bookings.

GATE CINEMA Nott. Hill. 727 5750. FASSBINDERS FOX. 1.30, 3.45, 6.15, 8.50 HARD DAYS NIGHT (U) 11.15 a.m. HARD DAYS NIGHT & HELP (A). 11.15 p.m. OPEN XMAS EVE & DAY.

ICA. Mall. 930 6393. 1 & 1.30. Best of best new British animation 7.0 Chabrol's LES BICHES (X) 9.0 Godard's SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL with Jagger, Stones.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE. 930 5252. "See! Hear! Feel!" TOMMY (AA). The Film Event of the Year Sep. progs. 1.20, 4.30, 8.00 Sun. 4.30, 8.00. All seats may be booked.

ODEON, HAYMARKET. (930 2738/2771). Dustin Hoffman "LENNY" (X). Sep. progs. Wk. 2.00, 5.15, 8.30 Sun. 4.30, 8.30. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. All seats may be booked.

ODEON, LEICESTER SQUARE. (930 6111). The BIG one for the holidays! THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING (A). Cont. progs. 2.10, 5.00, 7.50. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.15

ODEON, MARBLE ARCH (723 2011/2). The Newest and Greatest Musical Cartoon Feature HUGO THE HIPPO (U). Sep. progs. Wk. 1.15, 4.30, 8.00. Sun. 4.30, 8.00. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. All seats may be booked. Also Ann Todd's "A Persian Fairy Tale" (U)

CINEMAS

ODEON, ST. MARTIN'S LANE—HOME OF DISNEY MOVIES—THE JUNGLE BOOK (U). For info. 240 0071. Box Office 836 0691. Sep. progs. Wk. 2.30, 5.45, 8.45. Feature 3.05, 6.20, 9.20. Sat. progs. 11.15 a.m., 2.30, 5.45, 8.45. Sun. progs. 2.45, 5.35, 8.45. Bkble. Late show Sat. 11.45. From Dec. 22nd, Mon.-Sat. Early prog. 11.15 a.m.

PARIS PULLMAN. Sth. Ken. 373 5898. Herzog's ENIGMA OF KASPAR HAUSER (A). Pgs. 4.20, 6.30, 8.40.

PHOENIX (formerly REX), Opp. East Finchley Station. 883 2233. Herzog's ENIGMA OF KASPAR HAUSER (A). Pgs. 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.40.

PLAZA 1 & 2. Regent St., S.W.1. 839 6495. Box Office open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (not Suns.). 1 Glenda Jackson, Michael Caine, Helmut Berger, THE ROMANTIC ENGLISHWOMAN (AA). Daily 2.30, 5.30, 8.30. Sep. perfs. Bookable eve. only. 2 GONE WITH THE WIND (A). In 70mm. Progs.: Sep. perfs. daily, 2.15, 6.00. All seats bookable.

PRINCE CHARLES. Leic. Sq. 437 8181 2nd Great Year EMMANUELLE (X) Sep. perfs. Dly. (inc. Sun.), 2.45, 6.15, 9.00. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. Seats Bkble. Lic'd Bar.

RITZ. Leicester Sq. 437 1234. 3 DAYS OF THE CONDOR (AA). Progs. Daily 1.45, 3.50, 6.10, 8.30. Late show Fri. and Sat. 11.30 p.m.

SCENE 1, Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.). 439 4470. Cont. Dly. 12.30. Lte. Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. Ken Russell's LISZTOMANIA (X). Progs. 12.50, 2.30, 4.40, 7.05, 9.25. Lte. Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45.

SCENE 2, Leic Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. Cont. Dly. 1.05. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 10.55. WHAT'S UP DOC? (U). 1.15, 5.10, 9.05; FREEBIE AND THE BEAN (X). 3.05, 7.00. Lte. Show Fri. & Sat. 10.55.

SCENE 3. Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. THE TOWERING INFERNO (A). Sep. perfs. Dly. 2.00, 5.20, 8.40. Lte. Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. Seats Bkble—All Perfs.

SCENE 4, Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. 2nd YEAR. THE EXORCIST (X). Directed by William Friedkin. Sep. Perfs. Dly. 12.30, 3.00, 6.15, 9.00. Lte. Show Fri. & Sat. 11.30. Box Office Open Daily 10-8, Sun. 12-8. Seats Bkble—All Perfs.

WARNER WEST END Leicester Square. Tel. 439 0791. 1 Telly Savalas, James Mason, Robert Culp. INSIDE OUT (A). Sep. progs. 2.30, 5.30, 8.30. Late show Sat. 11.00. 2 BARRY LYNDON (A) a film by STANLEY KUBRICK starring RYAN O'NEAL, MARISA BERENSON. Sep. progs. Wk. 12.25, 4.05, 7.55. Sun. 4.05, 7.55. Late show Sat. 11.30. 3 Dirk Bogarde, Ava Gardner, PERMISSION TO KILL (AA). Sep. progs. 2.30, 5.30, 8.30. Late show Sat. 11.30. All seats may be booked. 4 AL PACINO in DOG DAY AFTERNOON (X). Cont. progs. 2.15, 5.00, 7.50. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.00.

EXHIBITIONS

LONDON DUNGEON. Exhibition of Medieval Degradation, Damnation & Death in vast dark vaults beneath London Bridge Stn. Daily 10-6. 34 Tooley St., S.E.1. 403 0606.

ART EXHIBITIONS

ALAN JACOBS GALLERY CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION FINE OLD MASTER DRAWINGS DUTCH & FLEMISH, 17th C. Mon.-Fri. 9.30-5.30, Sat. 9.30-1.00. 16 Motcomb St., Belgrave Sq., S.W.1. 235 5944.

ALBANY GALLERY, 14 Masons Yard, St. James's, S.W.1. 839 6119. Fine English Watercolours. Until December 19th. Mon.-Fri.: 10-5.30.

BRITISH MUSEUM—Turner Watercolours. Wkdys. 10-5. Suns. 2.30-6.

CHRISTIE'S CONTEMPORARY ART 11 Albemarle Street, W.1. 409 1307 Original Graphics for Christmas from £25 Monday-Friday, 9.30-5.30; Sats. 10-1

CHRISTOPHER MENDEZ, 734 2385 Gillray & Rowlandson Prints. 51 Lexington St., W.1. Mon.-Fri. 10-6.

COLNAGHI'S, 14 Old Bond Street, W.1. 491 7408. English and French 18th Century Drawings and Watercolours and Margaret Stones—Watercolours. Until Jan. 10. Dly 9.30-6; Sats 10-1.

DRIAN GALLERIES 5-7 Porchester Place, Marble Arch, W.2 HALIMA NALECZ Wkdys: 10.30-5: Sats. 11-1.

FIELDBORNE GALLERIES, 63 Queens Grove, N.W.8. 586 3600. ENGLISH & SCOTTISH PAINTING. Norman Adams, Peter Greenham, Rosoman, MacTaggart, Ruskin Spear, Carel Weight, etc.

FINE ART SOCIETY 148 New Bond Street 01-629 5116 LAURENCE WHISTLER Glass & Paintings by GERALD KELLY

FISCHER FINE ART, 30 King St., St James's, S.W.1. 01-839 3942. Important 19th and 20th century paintings, drawings and sculpture, including works by Moore, Picasso, Schiele, Klee, Dali, Feininger, Lindner etc. In the Lower Gallery: Christmas Presents—pictures from £20 to £500. Mon.-Fri. 10.00-5.30; Sats. 10.00-12.30.

GALLERY 21, 13a Grafton St., W.1. 01-493 6832, PRESENTS: Contemporary paintings, drawings, sculpture, prints. Until Christmas. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30; Sats. 10-1.

GERALD M. NORMAN GALLERY 8 Duke Street, St. James's, S.W.1. CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION Early English Watercolours Until Dec. 20th.

HAYWARD GALLERY, South Bank, S.E.1 (Arts Council) Burne-Jones until 4 Jan. Mon.-Fri.: 10-8: Sat.: 10-6: Sun.: 12-6. Adm. 50p, children, students, OAPs 25p. 10p all day Mon., Tues-Fri.: 6-8 p.m. Also admits to NEW WORK II (Closed 24, 25, 26 Dec and 1 Jan).

HAZLITT GOODEN & FOX 38 Bury Street, St James's, S.W.1 01-930 6422. VILLIERS DAVID Oil Paintings, Drawing & Watercolours Mon.-Fri.: 10-5.30 (LAST DAY)

JOCELYN FEILDING FINE ART LTD., 28 New Bond Street, W.1. Christmas Exhibition of Watercolours by Sir Albert Richardson, P.R.A. Mon.-Fri.: 9.30-5.30. 01-499 1123

KAPLAN GALLERY, 6 Cork Street, W.1. An Exhibition of Paintings, Watercolours, Drawings and Etchings by Sir Frank Brangwyn, RA, 1867-1956. Mon.-Fri. 10-6: Sats. 10-1. 01-437 0364.

LEGER GALLERIES, 13 Old Bond St. Annual Exhibition EARLY ENGLISH WATERCOLOURS Mon.-Fri., 9-5.30: Sats., 10-1

MARLBOROUGH, 6 Albemarle St., W1 AUERBACH, KOKOSCHKA, PASMORE and SUTHERLAND. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30: Sat. 10-12.30. Until 15 Jan.

MOORLAND GALLERY 23 Cork St., W.1. 01-734 6961 Pictures for Presents Until 20 Dec. Mon.-Fri. 9.30-6: Sats. 10-1

PHOTOGRAPHERS GALLERY 8 Great Newport St., W.C.2. 01-240 1969. Till December 25th. A MATTER OF STYLE 12 Press Photographers. Tues.-Sat: 11-7; Sun: 12-6 closed Mon.

REDFERN GALLERY, XX CENTURY GRAPHICS. December - January. 20 Cork Street, London, W.1.

ROLAND, BROWSE & DELBANCO 19 Cork St., W.1. 01-730 7984 RODIN—ARP Two divergent attitudes Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30 Extended until 23rd Jan.

SABIN GALLERIES LTD. Early English Drawings as Christmas Presents. Daily: 9.30-5.30. Sats. 10-12.30. 4 Cork Street, W.1.

SOMERVILLE & SIMPSON. 437 5414. Paintings, Drawings and Prints 11 Savile Row, W.1. Mon-Fri 9.30-3.30

SPINK Closing today. Exhibition of 18th and 19th century English oil paintings 9.30-5.30. 5-7 King Street, St James's, S.W.1

TATE GALLERY, Millbank, S.W.1. Paul Nash Paintings, watercolours and drawings. Until 28 December. Wkdys.: 10-6. Suns.: 2-6. Adm. 30p schoolchildren, students and OAPs. 15p. Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

TRYON GALLERY, 41 Dover St., W.1 01-493 5161. AFRICA '75. Bronzes and Drawings by Jonathan Kenworthy. Until 20th Dec., Mon.-Fri., 9.30-6. Sats. 10-1.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, S.W.7. The Land: 20th century landscape photographs. Wkdys 10.00-17.50. Suns.: 14.30-17.50. Adm. 40p. Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

WILDENSTEIN 147 New Bond St., W.1. FRED BEDDINGTON Paintings and Recent Watercolours Weekdays 10-5.30. Saturdays 10-12.30 Until 23rd December Admission free.

JOHN MARTIN MEZZOTINTS for Paradise Lost £15-£35 VICTORIAN ETCHINGS Prices from £12—also MASTERPIECES IN PRINTS Gainsborough to Chagall WILLIAM WESTON GALLERY 33 Albemarle St., W.1. 01-493 0722

The Times Special Reports.
All the subject matter on all the subjects that matter.
THE TIMES

THE ARTS

Huston in Kipling's India

David Robinson

The Man Who Would Be King (a)
Odeon, Leicester Square
Dog Day Afternoon (x)
Warner West End 4/ ABC Bayswater/ ABC Fulham Road



Clowning to their doom: Sean Connery and Michael Caine

It is easy enough to see the affinities that attract John Huston to Rudyard Kipling (for 20 years he has had the idea of filming *The Man Who Would Be King*). Each, in his own medium, is master of the craft of telling a tale, however tall. Each of them combines a taste for a hearty, extrovert world of adventure with acute sensibility and a perception of the mystical.

The Man Who Would Be King belongs to the earliest group of Kipling's writings and appeared in 1888 in Wheeler's Indian Railway Library series. Eighty-eight years on, the adaptation by Huston and Gladys Hill *does* not take it entirely at its face value. Kipling's faith in the British Empire and the Englishman as a divine gift to the benighted of all the world, and his dedication to the mysteries of Freemasonry, are treated with as much comic scepticism as is consistent with that degree of Imperial belief in the ignorance, gullibility and untrustworthiness of fuzzy-wuzzies of all colours which is demanded by the requirements of the story.

The story and the director together draw the best qualities from Sean Connery and Michael Caine, as Kipling's dubious, tragi-comic heroes Daniel Dravot and Peachy Carnehan. Ex-sergeants in the British army, they are engaged in gun-running, blackmail, smuggling and all the other splendid opportunities afforded the adventurer by colonial India. Then one night this dirty, duck-suited Tweedledum and Tweedledee sign a "contrak" to engage in their major enterprise, to conquer and plunder the remote state of Kafiristan. This is a reasonable enough undertaking for two British soldiers, who have only to put the first village they come across through a crash course of basic army training, to form the nucleus of the army which will easily mop up the untrained, disorganized and divided natives.

And so, exactly, it turns out, though there are unexpected bonuses when Daniel is hailed as a god and the heir to the riches of Alexander, the last man to conquer the place, and unforeseen perils when the Kafiristani tumble the con-men conquerors and overthrow them on the spot.

The attraction of the film is in the easy yarn-spinning; in the lovely double act of Connery and Caine, clowning to their doom; in the supporting playing (an excellent Moroccan comic actor, Doghmi Larbi, as a cowardly chief, Christopher Plummer *twinkling* behind his spectacles as Kipling himself, the fascinated "unwilling confidant of the adventurers); in Huston's ability to capture Kipling's mystical feeling for comradeship; and also in a new quality of irony, about the nature and instability of domination, about the kinship of all tribal religions, whether the worship of a deified Alexander or Freemasonry. And if Morocco does not really convincingly compensate for the old days when it was still possible to film Kipling in India, the film is by today's standards, a very *handsome spectacle*.

Dog Day Afternoon is based on a rather pitiful little incident that really happened in Brooklyn one August afternoon in 1972. As directed by Sidney Lumet (fresh from last year's success with *Murder on the Orient Express*) and scripted by Frank Pierson (who also wrote *Cat Ballou*, *Cool Hand Luke* and *The Anderson Tapes*), the story relates how three young men rather inexpertly set out to rob a bank. One is so numbed by fear that he runs off before it begins (and has to be told to take the subway and *not* the getaway car).

The remaining two muddle along amiably enough, until the police are alerted, surround the place with an army of marksmen—not to speak of TV cameramen and encouraging bystanders—and elevate the two idiots into terrorists and the bank staff into hostages. Circumstances force the people inside the bank—captors and hostages—into a natural comradeship of defence against the besiegers, pushing the situation nearer and nearer the inevitable crisis.

The inspiration of the undertaking is Sonny (Al Pacino, in a rivetting study of the sort of consuming neurosis that passes in urban society for normality) who keeps repeating, "I'm dying"; and like the visions of a drowning man his life keeps beating down on him: his hopeless, incompatible parents, his sloppy, scatty wife *and their kids, the transvestite* he has officially (if bigamously) married. It seems the measure of his total confusion that his motive in robbing the bank has been to raise money for an operation to change the sex of the boy he loves.

It's a sad story, as it builds from the comedy of the early scenes (Sonny gets his shotgun rather caught up in the gift wrappings in which he has unconvincingly disguised it; the bank ladies flatly refuse to be locked up till they have been to the bathroom) to Sonny's hysterical delight in playing to the enthusiastic crowd cheering him on; and thereafter to the ambivalent relations, the understood combination of trust and treachery between the besieged and the besiegers who are themselves divided by the mutual hatred of the police and the FBI.

At the heart of it all there is the tangled and tormented figure of Sonny. With economy and subtlety and no patronizing laughter, the script touches the tragedy of his relationship with the transvestite: Sonny's will (dictated to one of the bank tellers) reveals an affection to which the object is by his very personality incapable of responding.

Dog Day Afternoon has the considerable merit of being a film unlike the others, with a strangeness that could only derive from origins in real life. Its narrative compulsion through more than two hours is due at least to the human study of poor Sonny, of his silent, *melancholy companion* (John Cazale) whose own torments are hinted only by blurted asides, and of the hostages, cheerfully, unheroically adapting themselves to the situation, as to the ordinary dramatic (as well as topical) attractions of a "*siege*" situation.

The Benny Hill Show
Thames

Stanley Reynolds

There is something marvellously daring about Benny Hill. He opened his new show on Thames Television on Wednesday with that joke about the clergyman trying to coax a man down off a window ledge. The first time I heard it, long years ago, it was a Catholic priest talking to the potential suicide, and the punch line was "Jump, you — Protestant". In the Benny Hill version the vicar is a Leeds United supporter and the man on the ledge is a Liverpool fan.

That joke opened the show, and it was presented as if it were something awesomely grand like 250 chorus girls tapping their way down a marble staircase. Hill's eyes blazed with a sort of manic glee as he went through it. By the end of an hour of those jokes, and impersonations of W. C. Fields, Moira Anderson, Liza Minelli, Kojak and Esther Rantzen, plus Benny in speeded-up film doing a comic cowboy, the viewer gains a sort of gape-mouthed respect: how could anyone dare tell such old jokes and be so obviously pleased with himself while performing them? More to the point, why do people like him?

If there is joy in watching Benny Hill at work I think it comes through the madman's pleasure he has in his own efforts. Like Tommy Cooper, *who also laughs at his own* jokes, he appears to be only this side of the asylum gate. We saw that on Wednesday when Hill stepped into camera dressed as a yokel, pausing for some time to roll his eyes about in wild, half-witted anticipation. He then started to recite: "That new vicar up at St Paul's, Don't half talk a lot of [pause] . . . rubbish", and so on.

Hill in those moments is not really in the tradition of the mere seaside postcard; he becomes positively Shakespearian, *a rustic, a rude mechanical*, a Sir Toby Belch, pleased with himself as much as the performing yokel in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. This is, of course, a long way to travel to explain Hill's popularity, but anything less would be rather insulting to the *viewing public. Well roared, Hill.*

Contrapuncti
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Stanley Sadie

Michael Lankester's Contrapuncti usually have something out of the ordinary to offer. This time it was a couple of unusual concertos, the odder of which was for three basset-horns, by Georg Druschetzky (*né* Jiri Druzecky; he hailed from Bohemia, like so many wind players). Drischetzky lived from 1745 to 1819, and composed *prolifically*—quartets, symphonies, Masses, but most of all wind music.

Three basset-horns and orchestra is possibly a slightly limited medium. Druschetzky treats the three in tandem (an oversized tandem, of course); and the sonorities of this trio of alto clarinets, far from the "watery melancholy" remarked by Bernard Shaw, had a rich, deep-throated, reedy quality that, in smallish doses, fell happily on the ear. Certainly they are handled ingeniously here: sometimes a pair in thirds or tenths, sometimes three-part close harmony, sometimes with two busily accompanying a melody on the remaining one, sometimes in dialogues. But sometimes, too, Druschetzky's instrumental invention flags and there are thin passages.

A piece worth hearing, then, for its instrumental ingenuity; not perhaps for much more than that, as its thematic matter is both slender and rather trite. Nor was the Vivaldi concerto specially rewarding. This, for mandolin and orchestra, is an "Echo Concerto": which effectually means that most phrases heard on the orchestra are immediately repeated on the mandolin, producing a piece largely chopped up into two-bar phrases (or less) and thus metrically hamstrung.

Only the first movement, fortunately, is in the echo style. The second has some orchestral ritornellos of unusual warmth, with mandolin figuration in between; the finale is a jolly piece, much in the manner of the hunting music ending "Autumn" from *The Four Seasons*. It was played, rather unevenly, on a sweet-toned eighteenth-century mandolin, by Ian White: but this is not, I find, an instrument very apt *to a classical idiom, with its* ineluctable hints of return invitations to Sorrento.

There was also a lively performance of a Telemann overture, a rather lustreless one (with flutes *vice* recorders) of Brandenburg No 4, and two Handel arias, from *Alcina*, with Hannah Francis: not perfect in every detail, but sung with exceptional charm and warmth, spirit and style—naturally musical and euphonious singing, and a joy to listen to.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

RSC
JUDI DENCH IAN McKELLEN
ANNA CALDER-MARSHALL
BERNARD SHAW'S
TOO TRUE TO BE GOOD
Wonderful . . . Superb . . . Fascinating
GLOBE THEATRE

GATE
CINEMA NOTTING HILL
"[illegible] is one of the best films about the life of homosexuals, their passions, their quarrels"
FASSBINDER'S FOX AND HIS FRIENDS

Carol's Christmas
King's Head

Charles Lewsen

Doing justice to Frank Marcus's brief lunchtime two-hander presents a couple of technical difficulties. First, not to spoil your pleasure, *I* must not reveal the identity of the male character; secondly, I think it fair to define it as a joke, while pointing out that the punch line is ecstatic rather than comic.

Carol is a Soho prostitute, left *in an untidy, card-bedecked* room to celebrate Christmas with whatever clientele the hours afford. Waiting for a knock at the door or a ring at the telephone, she regales herself with carols on her transistor recorder which, appropriately, include "Come All Ye Faithful" and "Ding-dong Merrily on High". Enter the client who, by phone, has requested her to dress in gear that presumably excites him sexually, but who only wants to plant a chaste kiss on her forehead, and to pour out to her his problem of identity.

Like most viable dramatic ideas, it is not essentially new; his need for others to believe in him is mirrored by her need for strangers to affirm her existence. Her recollection of a Northern playwright, using her for research material rather than an object of pleasure, is also rather a generalization. However, the man is something of an original. His trade is age-old, and he has long practised it; but he is not unacquainted with Existentialist philosophy; and this gives piquancy to his *dilemma, a dilemma* which invites us to confront the loss of faith in a secular, rationalist society.

Barry Parman's sleazy set nicely contrasts with the sentiment of the action. Prunella Gee and Nigel Stock mark the pain of two public servants obliged to act out others' fantasies. A more leisurely production by Stewart Trotter might perhaps have allowed them to make the climax more moving.

Artaud at Rodez
Open Space

Irving Wardle

Typically, the British stage caught up late with Antonin Artaud and the "Theatre of Cruelty" and discarded them as soon as Peter Brook moved on to the next thing. However, Artaud achieved a permanent London shrine at the Open Space, where his unfulfilled manifestos and disorganized aesthetic have become the basis of a powerful house style. One could view Charles Marowitz's piece as the payment of an outstanding debt to his theatre's spiritual patron.

Its title relates to Artaud's nine years in French lunatic asylums during the war, and in particular to his relationship with Dr Gaston Ferdière, the director of the asylum at Rodez where Artaud spent his final period in custody. He arrived there starving and shaven-beaded, after a life that included total immersion in the Paris surrealist world, a 10-month sojourn with the Tarahumara Indians in Mexico and a return via Ireland where he acquired a magical walking stick which supposedly once belonged to Lucifer. Back in France, he disappeared into the nightmare of institutionalized anonymity, and was supposed dead by many of his friends until he surfaced in Rodez.

Apart from the improvement in physical conditions, the point about Rodez was that its director was himself a would-be man of letters who had mixed in surrealist circles; and who now found himself in charge of a major artist. Dr Ferdière declared himself "entirely devoted to poetic liberty", and yet he subjected his patient to extensive electric-shock treatment and other methods of securing obedience, although it had never been shown that *Artaud was* dangerous to anyone. As Marowitz himself once put it, it was the case of "a man of power with absolute control over a man of genius": and, as such, it offers a superb pretext for dramatizing the politics of psychiatry, and the question of enforcing violent therapy upon an artist who believed the theatre's task was to hand out the equivalent of electric shock treatment to the public at large.

Although *Artaud at Rodez* is framed within a self-exculpating lecture by Ferdière, it does not pick up this challenge: largely, I *suspect*, because that would have involved sustained and claustrophobic scene-building of a kind foreign to Marowitz's talent. As usual, he deals in brief jagged scenes, chopping up chronology and idiom, and depending wherever possible on documentary statement. The result is an Artaud revue, including such high spots as a rehearsal for the disastrous 1936 *Cenci* (with a blissfully funny performance by Thelma Holt as its wealthy amateur star), humiliating encounters with the Parisian establishment and fantasy meetings with van Gogh and his future disciples.

The scenic vocabulary runs in brilliant parallel with the text. Artaud appeals to Jouvet, unreachably costumed as a Molièresque gallant. The Muse appears to him as a satin-sheathed temptress pushing inspiration in the form of an opium pipe. The key statements are made through bold stage images, among which one must number Clive Merrison's marvellous central performance.

The quality of the scenes is variable, and I regret such thinly scripted anachronisms as an imagined holdup of Rodez led by Malcolm Tierney's gun-toting Roger Blin, and the presentation of Artaud's sad last performance as if it was happening at Radio City Music Hall. No final judgment is made of Artaud: you are allowed to walk round him and weigh up the evidence. Marowitz's own view is contained in the *final tableau* of his coffin, with a loud hammering inside.



Clive Merrison Photograph by Donald Cooper

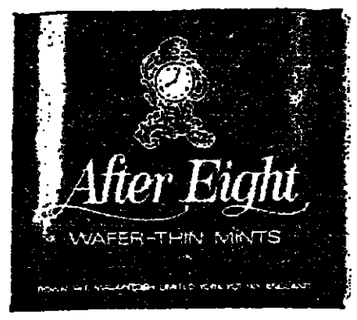
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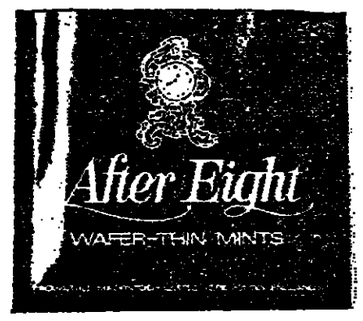
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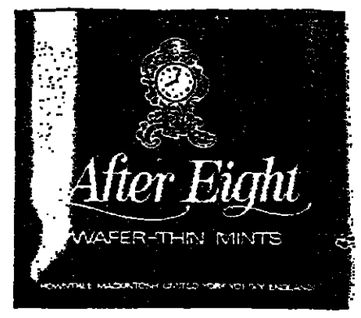
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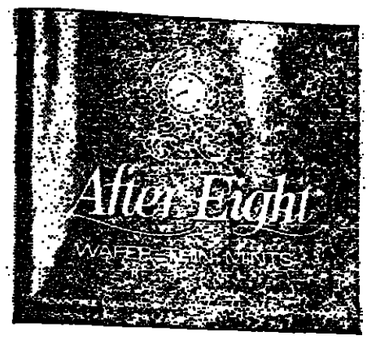
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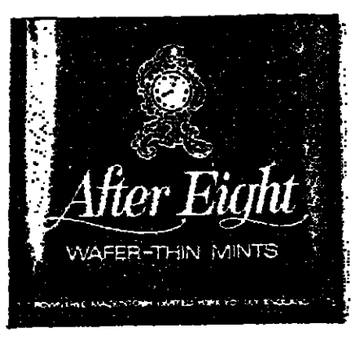
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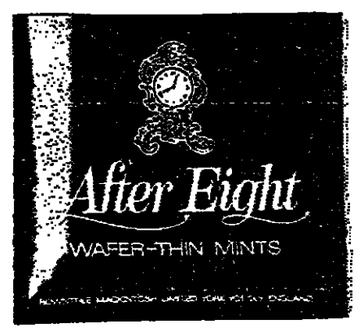
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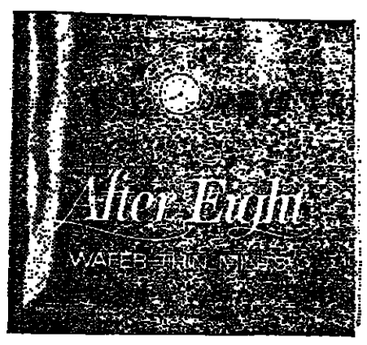
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Kensington Square.



Chalcot Square.



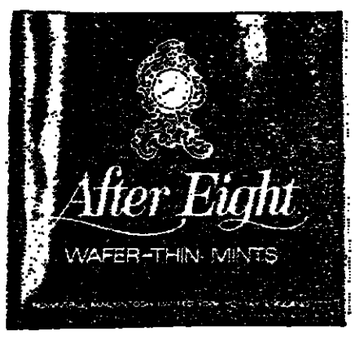
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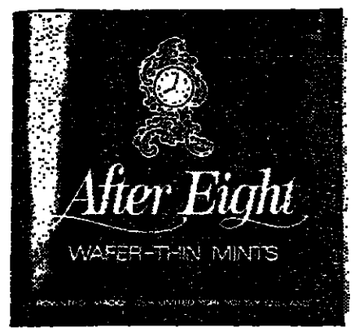
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Bryanston Square.



Campden Hill Square.



Oxford Square.



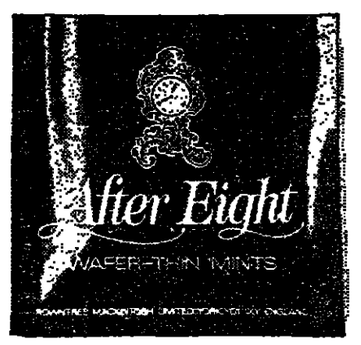
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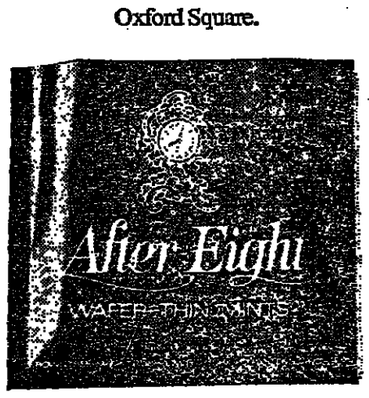
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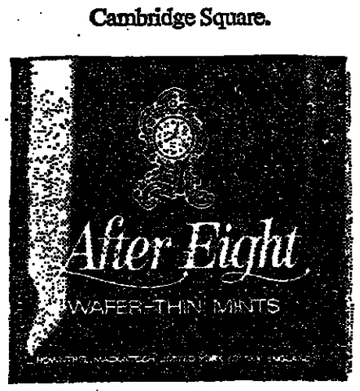
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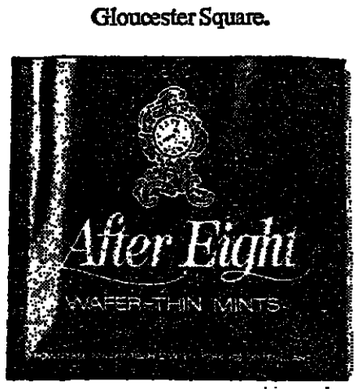
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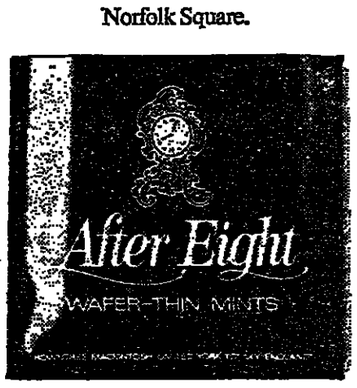
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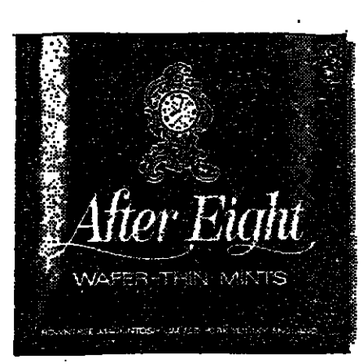
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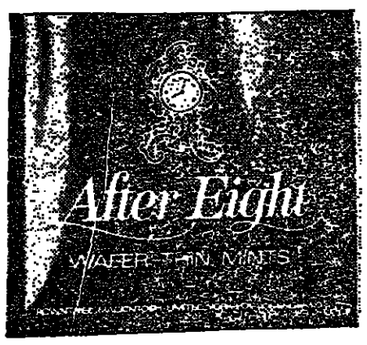
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Norland Square.



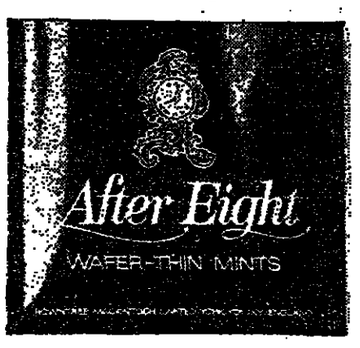
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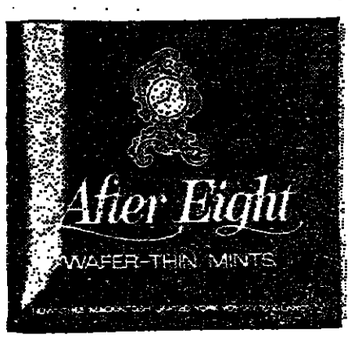
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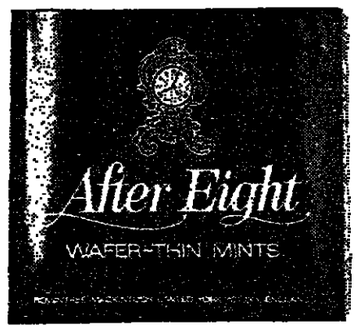
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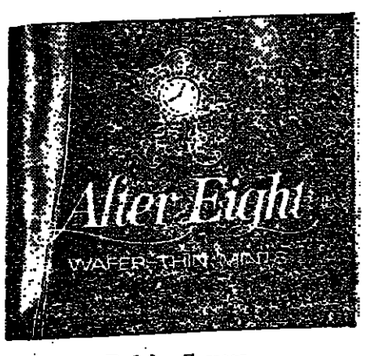
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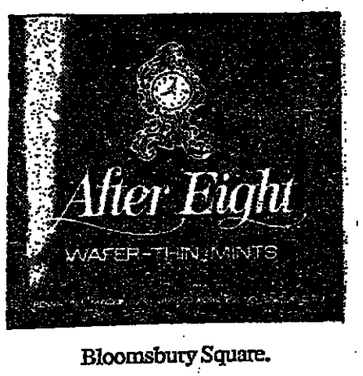
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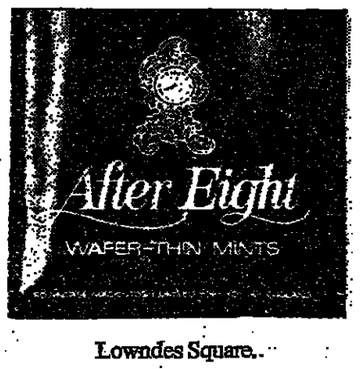
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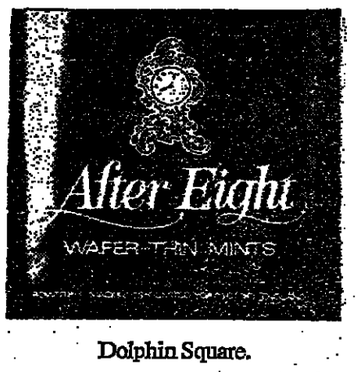
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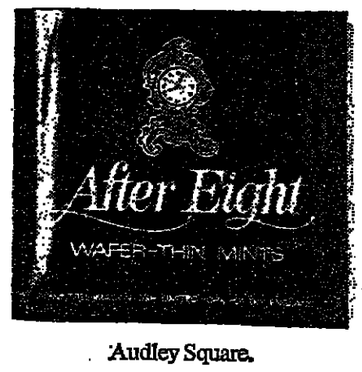
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Lowndes Square.



Dolphin Square.



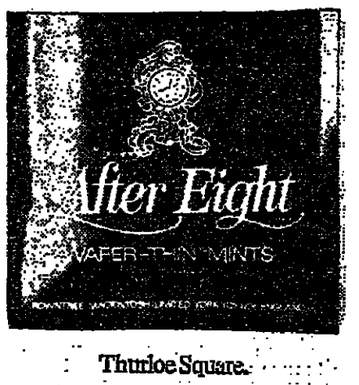
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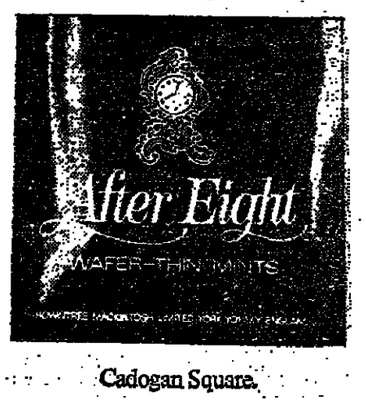
Montpelier Square.



Belgrave Square.



Thurloe Square.



Cadogan Square.

Eaton Square.

Yemen takes a softer line to win Arab support

Mr Mahmoud Sa'id Medhi, aged 32, is a graduate of the London School of Economics. His youthful, slightly scruffy appearance and mild intellectual manner make one think that he might easily have stayed there as a graduate student or junior lecturer. Instead, he is Minister of Commerce in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) and tipped to become Finance Minister in an imminent Government reshuffle.

He is thus uniquely qualified to expound the difficulties of managing South Yemen's economy and the principles of "scientific socialism" on which the Government is attempting to do it. He explains that the National Front inherited a country in which agriculture was under-developed and primitive, in which there were virtually no roads or internal communications, and no industry apart from the BP oil refinery at Little Aden. Traditional handicrafts had been killed by competition from imported commodities. More than 80 per cent of the population was illiterate. There was no higher education, far fewer schools than were needed, and no surveys of the country's economic potential or mineral resources.

There was a large government deficit, aggravated by a British decision to raise salaries immediately before independence, and huge foreign trade deficit, caused by the low level of exports, the country's nearly total dependence on imports for its requirements of foodstuffs, capital and consumer goods, and medicines, and the loss of its main source of foreign exchange—services to ships passing through the Suez Canal. There was heavy unemployment, especially in the countryside, a low per capita income, and no studies to identify the most promising fields for economic development—for which in any case the country's financial position made it hard to allocate resources. The heights of the economy—banking, shipping, insurance, oil distribution—were dominated by foreign firms.

The Government has sought to break free from this extreme underdevelopment along a determinedly "non-capitalist" path. A law of November, 1969, nationalized banking, insurance, navigation and internal oil distribution, and set up national companies for domestic and foreign trade. Since then nine principal commodities, including basic foodstuffs, machinery and medicines, have been imported exclusively by the public sector. This was followed in 1970 by an agrarian reform law which distributed land for use, not ownership, and encouraged the peasants to form co-operatives.

State farms have also been set up, farmers have been educated, and production has been centrally planned with a view to achieving self-sufficiency in wheat, maize, vegetables and fruit (for the last two it is already a reality). This law was enforced not by the police but by Government - sponsored "peasant uprisings" against the landowners, rather on the lines of what occurred in the same period in Chile and more recently in Portugal, but apparently under tighter party control.

During the first three-year plan (1971-74) about 30 new industries were also set up—some private, some public and some mixed. An ambitious programme of road-building was carried out, with generous Chinese assistance. The fishing industry is being expanded and modernized on the basis of studies carried out both by international organizations and by Soviet experts. A fishmeal plant is now producing for export in Markalla, and frozen and dried fish is also exported. A canning factory is under way. Like farmers, fishermen are organized in cooperatives which are given credit to buy boats and equipment.

Still, the country remains desperately short of foreign exchange, and the structure of its foreign trade has been badly hit by rocketing import prices.

There are severe shortages of many imported commodities, and the country is heavily dependent on foreign aid. No less than 90 per cent of the finance for the current five-year plan is supposed to come from abroad, in the form of grants and long-term loans. The main sources are the Soviet block, China, various international institutions, and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development. But the regime clearly hopes that Kuwait's example will be followed by other Arab oil-producing countries, especially Saudi Arabia. It is also anxious to increase the activity of the port of Aden and the throughput of the BP oil refinery—both of which are running at less than one third of their capacity.

There have been a number of signs lately that in order to win Arab support and win back international shipping, the regime is prepared to moderate its revolutionary fervour and perhaps even to pursue less restrictive internal policies. One such sign was the release two months ago of two American citizens who had been held without trial for two years. They were handed over to a special representative of President Sadat, who undoubtedly is playing a key role in the rapprochement between the PDRY and Saudi Arabia.

However, several other foreign businessmen are still being held, not to mention thousands of Yemeni nationals. Perhaps half of these have been tried and sentenced by "people's courts", in which the procedure is summary and defence lawyers are not allowed—though under new regulations introduced this year most such cases should in future be referred to normal criminal courts whose procedure is based on English Common Law. The rest are simply detained without trial and without any reason being given. Some have been held since 1967 without being seen by relatives or lawyers. Only unofficial reports confirm that they are still alive and being held in this or that particular camp.

Whether there is any real liberalization may depend on the outcome of an obscure power struggle between the reputedly moderate President Salim Rubayya Ali and the more hardline secretary general of the National Front, Mr Abd Al-Fattah Isma'il. A series of high-level meetings now in progress is expected to culminate in a government reshuffle, in which the President's supporters hope to strengthen their position. But it is uncertain whether this will affect the powerful East German-trained security apparatus headed by the Minister of State Security, Mr Muhammad Said Abdullah.

Edward Mortimer

The ludicrous case of the incontinent cat

Bernard Levin

There has been a good deal of amusement, and about the same amount of indignation, at the British Leyland carworkers' strike that was provoked by a stray cat. For those who missed the details, it seems that the workers arriving at the factory found that they had been preceded by an imperfectly house-trained cat (I must make it perfectly clear at this point that it wasn't my darling Tiddles), so 600 workers naturally refused to work until the cat's traces had been removed. This was duly done by the cleaners, though it is not known whether the air was also sprayed with Mitsouko, or pouncet-boxes distributed among the workforce, and work was resumed, or rather not resumed but started, or more precisely neither resumed nor started because it was noticed that where the cleaners' energetically plied mop had been there was (as is commonly the case where mops have been, some people even holding that that is the point of a mop) some damp on the floor. Tools were downed, or at any rate not picked up (or perhaps picked up solely for the symbolic purpose of being downed), and the men went into conclave to discuss this further outrage to their susceptibilities. While they were thus engaged, it is to be presumed (though history is silent on the point) that the mop-caused dampness dried, from natural causes, but at that point a further complication arose, the management (or whatever that odd-looking thing over there is, with patches of mould sprouting on it) declaring robustly that pay would be docked for the time spent on the meeting. At this, a strike broke out, and for all I know continues still, so that the flow of British Leyland motor cars, already much attenuated recently, looks likely to diminish still further. There, as newspapers used to say in the days when bodies were for ever being found in suitcases deposited in the cloakroom at Victoria Station (the line is immaterial), the matter rests at present.

Now: you can have five minutes to laugh, and five minutes to splutter, and then we shall be serious.

First, let us make a huge leap of the imagination, and assume that the idiots who went on strike because the cat sat on the mat are sufficiently aware of the condition of the British car industry in general and British Leyland in particular to know that such action is likely to bring measurably nearer the day when the production of cars in Britain ceases altogether and the number of workers needed is reduced not by one-third, as in the Chrysler proposals, but by three-thirds. Of course, they also know that with a Government like the present one, it is likely that the thousands of millions of pounds it is already proposed to pour down the bottomless drain of British Leyland and Chrysler, not one penny of which will ever be seen again, will be followed by many more thousands of millions of pounds, and no doubt there is truth in the contention that playing silly-buggers round a couple of ounces of cat-droppings is what you would expect from people protected by the nice, warm feeling that whatever they do or don't do, and whether they work or not, and whether anybody wants to buy the cars they produce, or for that matter the ones they do not produce, they will still have the same jobs at the same pay until they die, and their children after them, and their children's children, even unto the fortieth generation, while all the time Mr Michael Foot jumps up and down squealing: "This is well within the terms of the Social Contract."



It may be so. Indeed, to some extent it undoubtedly is so. But before we leave it there, come with me to the report, published yesterday, of the Work Research Unit of the Department of Employment, and then let us look at the report, published the day before, by the Central Policy Review Staff, on the British car industry. And then let us wonder whether the problem may not be rather more complex than one of lazy workers who know that the Government will always intervene to make sure that they do not have to pay the price of their disinclination to work.

It is often said that the cry of "lazy workers" is always raised by people who are themselves in receipt of incomes far greater than any industrial worker, so who are they to talk? That charge is untrue, but I am not concerned with it today. What is true, and true almost without exception, is that those who grumble at the laziness, irresponsibility, selfishness and dishonesty of industrial workers are doing work which, though it may not be as highly paid as that of, say, many an engineering worker, miner or newspaper compositor, is much more interesting. The "think-tank" report suggests that the total collapse of the British car industry is inevitable if something is not done about what it calls the "trench warfare" attitude that prevails throughout it, together with the poor standards of workmanship and other fundamental weaknesses. The other report, by the Work Research Unit, suggests some reasons for the attitudes that the think-tank condemns.

Among the chief of these are the repetitiveness of so much work, the lack of freedom to take decisions, and the impersonal nature of the organization in which the work is done. As Mr Gilbert Jessup, the head of the unit, said in his interview with Roger Berthoud published yesterday: "If people come into a factory and find no incentive to work hard they rapidly switch off."

It is no use saying that they should not need to be provided with incentives; that they have contracted to do a fair day's work every day, in return for generally high wages, and if they do not they are swindlers. That is perfectly true, but saying it does not help to stop them failing to deliver the goods. And the reason they fail to deliver the goods is not just laziness or dishonesty, any more than the British Leyland workers who went on strike against an incontinent pussy-cat were deliberately using any excuse to do less work than they had agreed to.

I wouldn't do a car-worker's jo for ten thousand pounds a week; nc would most of my readers, and tha goes for any other mechanical an repetitive labour. Most of such wor has long ceased to be physicall crushing; but it has not ceased to b emotionally, psychologically an spiritually crushing. Repetitive wor which involves no initiative on th part of the worker is the lot of muc of the labour force in countries lik Britain, and something has got to b done to change it. The Work Re search Unit puts forward a numbe of suggestions, and I hope they wil be pursued. But I am not here dis cussing the methods by which w may begin to transform our industria society; I only wish to argue that i has got to be transformed, and tha until it is we shall see strikes ore who bores the holes, and where cat shall relieve themselves, and hov many beans make five.

A great deal of industrial labou will inevitably remain repetitive and can never have anything better than a very low level of choice-making initiative built into it. More over (though it is unfashionable t mention the fact), many of thos engaged in it are incapable o initiative, and many are too stupic to do anything but a simple an repeated task. But that leaves a huge field still to sow, and a huge harvest still to reap. If some of the energy expended on denouncing the cat strikers of British Leyland were to be put instead into seeking a cure for the causes of whatever it is that such actions are the symptoms of, we might one day get to a point at which such actions would seem just as ridiculous to those engaged in them as they do now to the rest of us.

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Changes Spain must make to become part of the European Community

David Rudnick, a research specialist at the Royal Institute of International Affairs, examines the factors likely to influence the pace of reform in post-Franco Spain.

It is generally appreciated that the process of transition from Franco to post-Franco Spain is going to prove a delicate and potentially dangerous task, not rendered any easier by the Caudillo's extended stay in power. Much will depend on the Cabinet team which is selected by Señor Arias, now confirmed as Prime Minister, since the 37-year-old king is admirably suited to the role of a constitutional monarch rather than a more activist role.

The situation is not really, as is sometimes claimed, one of political vacuum. It is true that throughout his three and a half decades of personal rule Franco systematically played off one group against another, taking care to remain the essential linchpin, the keystone in the arch of government. But while he successfully played the classic game of "divide and rule", arbitrating between Falange and monarchists, the National Movement (as the Falange was later reconstituted) and the Opus Dei technocrats, in the end one group came out on top as a broadly but clearly defined elite. This is the business elite, the so-called civilized or new right of industrialists, bankers and big business directors. It is these men, aided and abetted by the Armed Forces, who have quietly become the de facto masters of Spain, bulwarks and beneficiaries of the new capitalism of Spain's great leap forward.

Franco's acceptance over twenty years ago of western—in particular American—economic penetration of Spain implied a definite rejection of the ideology of the Falange, with its economic nationalism, its autarchy, its distaste for capitalism and its typically fascist championing of the small farmer and artisan entrepreneur over large-scale business.

The technocrats of Desarollo (economic development)—men like Lopez Rodó and Fraga Iribarne—brought a brusque, no-nonsense atmosphere to the stagnant, previously inward-looking Spanish economy, which was transformed in almost Japanese fashion by successive years of high growth and industrialization.

Today, the future appears to lie with the new capitalists; but is their position really as strong as it might seem? In keeping with their progressive economic doctrines, they are by and large sympathetic to reforms designed to update Spain's archaic and illiberal political structure; many of them have deliberately distanced themselves from the regime to emphasize the fact. But the task confronting them is none the less a formidable one; they have to find and maintain just the right pace for reform, not so fast as to trigger off a putsch by the ultras of the Bunker, nor so slow as to stimulate active discontent from groups to their left.

The new leadership will also have to resist the threatening noises that may in any event be expected from the far right. To rebut the charge of the left that they are perpetuating francoism without Franco (and using the bunker as an alibi), Juan Carlos and his lieutenants will have to temper "realism" about the entrenched power of the rightists (particularly in the police forces) with courage and firmness. There is a notoriously thin dividing line between realism and appeasement, between appeasement and collaboration.

But the dividing line between the far right and the "civilized" classical right is similarly blurred in many cases; ownership of capital and a share in the spoils of industrialization generally are not the prerogative of the architects of the new capitalism. Just as in nineteenth-century Britain, feudal scions of the old order infiltrated the ranks of the nouveaux riches (who were similarly accepted and absorbed by the old aristocracy), so in Spain today there is a considerable harmony of class interest uniting the old and the new right.

What degree of cooperation may be expected from the various factions of the Left? For how long will they patiently give the new government the benefit of the doubt, and rest content to wait on their inheritance? The answer lies in one's interpretation of that last word, whether it is taken to have primarily political or economic significance. Wages constitute 48 per cent of Spain's national income (70 per cent in Britain), so there is clearly scope for a more equitable distribution of income. This is no longer so likely to come from continuing growth in today's tougher economic climate, and with inflation eroding the purchasing power of wage increases it may well be economic rather than political fears and discontent that provide the Government with its biggest headaches. Economic grievances have a habit of being politicized too.

Economic freedom brings its own pitfalls. Hitherto, the Spanish worker has received a degree of feather-bedding by the regime in the form of greater job security to compensate him for his lack of political freedom. The company sector has in the past frequently borne the brunt of recessions, with redundant workers kept on to disguise unemployment. But this rigidity will have to be replaced by a more rational labour market policy if Spain's aspiration (shared by a wide section of political opinion) to join the EEC is to be met. The pursuit of international competitiveness through cutting labour costs means however that countervailing welfare measures will have to be taken to avoid hardship to the proletarian masses. Moves towards pluralist, representative government are doubtless awaited with impatience abroad, but inside Spain they are more concerned with bread and butter issues like higher wages, improved social security, and increased unemployment benefits. If these demands are not met, and the government still abandons the feather-bedding policies of francoism, the result could be explosive. The problem is hardly eased by the existence of a sizable balance of payments deficit.

A similar dilemma faces the conservative reformers with respect to the state-run, vertically organized trade unions, the Sindicatos. The vast bureaucratic ramifications of the Sindicatos employ an estimated 150,000 people; if the whole apparatus is superseded by class-based, horizontally organized unions on the familiar western pattern, then an added problem of labour deployment (at a time of high unemployment) will have to be solved. Paradoxically, it is the Communists who could most benefit from this situation. The nettle will have to be grasped sooner or later, and the government will have to recognize the unofficial Workers Committees (Comisiones Obreras), the real trade union power in the land. Furthermore, the EEC will accept Spain only if she does scrap the Sindicato, since it is a far less militant organ than the Comisiones, and would therefore distort free (labour cost) competition, the basis on which the EEC works.

In general terms, all political groups realize that extremism—of either right or left—would put paid to Spanish membership of the Community.

Continuing international confidence is going to prove a crucial factor in keeping Spain on course. Foreign capital has lost a great deal in Portugal over the past year, and facile (and mistaken) comparisons could damage prospects for stability in Spain by frightening investors away. America is the leading investor ($500m), followed by Germany (390m), Switzerland (335m), France (262m) and Britain (102m). If foreign investment holds up, the credibility of the government will of course be greatly enhanced at home and abroad. If not, prophecies of doom and chaos could well turn out to be self-fulfilling.

The author is a research specialist at the Royal Institute of International Affairs.

Backstage move may upset new Zionist election

Tel Aviv

The main issue in the election of a new chairman of the World Zionist Executive next month is the backstage attempt by the Prime Minister of Israel, Mr Rabin, to influence its outcome by supporting the Labour Party candidate, Mayor Yosef Almogi of Haifa, against Mr Arye Leib Dulzin, who has been acting chairman since the death of Mr Pinhas Sapir in August.

The chairman will be chosen by the Zionist General Council which meets in Jerusalem on January 3. The executive's 21 members and an equal number of representatives of Jewish appeal funds abroad make up the executive of the Jewish Agency which controls an annual budget of £300m for immigration, settlement and education.

The fund raisers have agreed that both candidates are acceptable and whoever wins the Zionist elections will later be chosen chairman of the Jewish Agency.

Mr Almogi is a Labour Party stalwart who gained a reputation in government, municipal and trade union affairs but has not held office in the Zionist organization. Mr Dulzin, a Zionist official for decades, has protested against the Prime Minister's intercession: "If we allow the Government to impose its candidate", he said, "we convert ourselves into a branch of the Government."

The Government patently wants a Jewish Agency and Zionist leadership which will be close to the administration. Mr Dulzin agreed that close co-operation and understanding were essential, but he insisted that the Zionist organization must be independent.

The body which is to elect the chairman is a mini-parliament which meets annually between Zionist congresses. All but 20 of its 110 members represent Israel parties or affiliates overseas. Eight are British.

The pattern was set before Israel was established when the Zionist executive had been a shadow government of the nascent Jewish state. Mr Dulzin said the system was now obsolete and advocated reforms to limit and eventually eliminate the power of the parties.

Mr Almogi argued that as long as the organization was a political body and operated on a democratic basis, the majority must prevail. Mr Dulzin, he pointed out, had been nominated by a political party. Since Labour and its traditional coalition partners constituted a clear majority, they had the right to choose their man.

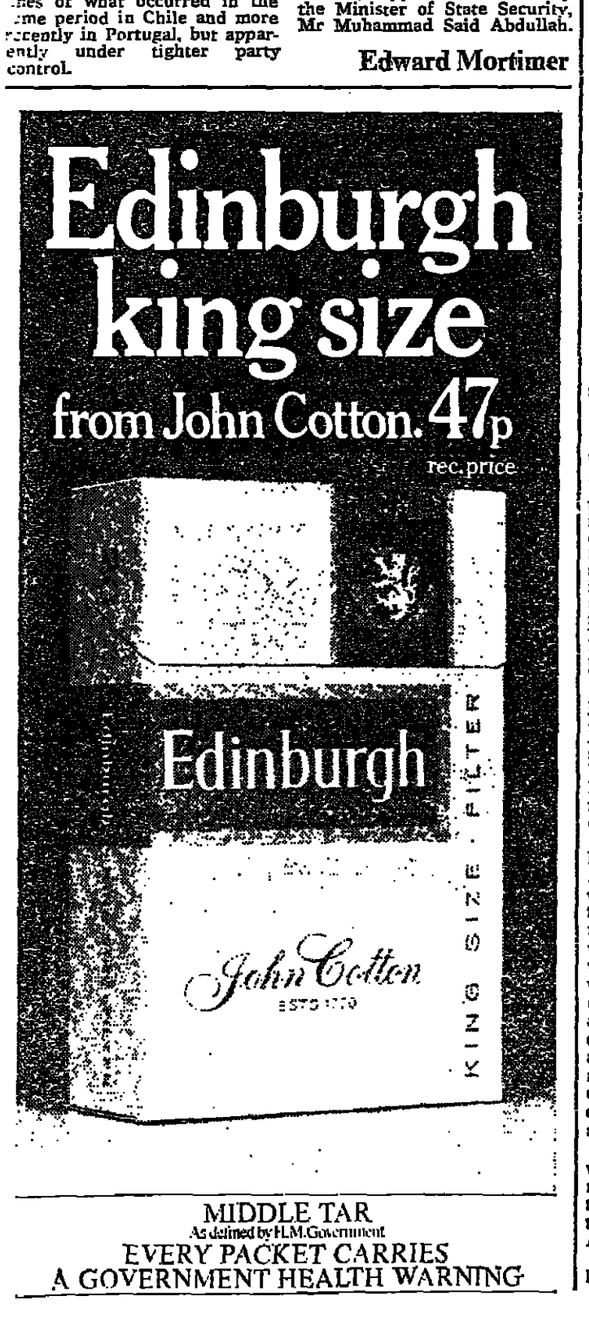
The elections take place at a time of revived respect here for the Zionist organization. Many Israelis had regarded it as anachronistic after Israel's independence when its top leaders and major functions went to the Government. Zionism became Hebrew slang for "hot air". However, the recent United Nations censure of Zionism as racist awakened interest in the movement.

Mr Almogi's and Mr Dolzin's political differences are not issues the Zionist organization deals with. The Likud candidate, for example, criticized the Government's interim agreement with Egypt. Mr Almogi claimed such criticism of government policies by a chairman of the Jewish Agency was harmful, no matter how much he stressed he was speaking privately.

Mr Dulzin, 62, a successful businessman in Mexico, became active in Zionist affairs there and was the first Latin American elected to the World Zionist Executive. He settled in Jerusalem 19 years ago after his election. When the Likud Party joined Mrs Meir's government in 1970, he served briefly as Minister without Portfolio.

Mr Almogi, 65, emigrated from Poland in 1930. Like a typical member of the Israel ruling establishment, he belonged to a kibbutz, served in the Jewish underground during British rule, became a trade union organizer and served in the Cabinet as Minister of Labour. In 1973 he was elected Mayor of Haifa. He travelled extensively on fund raising missions and gained familiarity with Jewish communities around the world.

Moshe Brilliant



MIDDLE TAR
As defined by H.M. Government
EVERY PACKET CARRIES
A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

The Times Diary

I spy a new discipline

What claims to be the world's first university course for studying intelligence services has just completed its first term at Sweden's second oldest university, Lund. A small independent institute attached to the university's faculty of social sciences is properly called the Research Policy Programme, and more popularly known as the Lund Spy School.

The founder and organizer of the course, as well as its chief lecturer, is Professor Stefan Dedijer, a brother of the Yugoslav partisan leader and author, Vladimir Dedijer. Professor Dedijer, who now has Swedish nationality, has varied experience to qualify him for his task.

After study at Princeton he became a journalist on the American *Daily Worker*, and was imprisoned for some months for communist activities. During the war he was a parachutist with the American forces. Afterwards he returned to Yugoslavia to become, successively, deputy chief of the state news agency Tanjug, editor of the chief communist paper, *Borba*, and director of Yugoslavia's atomic physics institute before quarrelling with the regime and emigrating. He has been at Lund since 1961.

A sturdy, red-faced man who wears expensive tweed suits, he now looks like an English country squire. He delivers his lectures in English, with a strong American accent.

His institute deals with all kinds of intelligence operations—business, industrial and social as well as military and political. He claims that it can fill "gaping loopholes" in academic studies. "Two hundred countries have intelligence organizations, yet nobody studies them. These services know enormously more about each other than the public know about any of them. I think that it is time that politicians and ordinary citizens learn how these things function."

The professor has sent announcements of his course to places all over the world, including academies of social science in China and the USSR, "just as if it was a traditional subject like chemistry or physics". Sixty research students, including men with sinister black beards and Swedish girls with blonde hair and high Mata Hari potential, have attended the first two months of lectures, seminars and tutorials. It costs them £5 each.

Slump

There has, you will be surprised to hear, been a slump in the cost of Christmas. The World Wildlife Fund's annual computation of the cost of giving your true love gifts on the 12 days of Christmas, regularly featured here, shows that the total bill is down 20 per cent. Last year it was £4,905.88, 70 per cent up on 1973. This year you can have the lot for £3,928.

Part of the explanation is that pear trees have become a drug on the market, £5.20 each last year, you can stock up now at £2 apiece. The partridges to go in them are 50p cheaper than last year, too.

Another saving is on the turtle-doves, £15 a pair last year but now back at their 1973 price of £5. The other birds on the gift list are all up in price. Geese, pink-footed, and swans, mute, quoted by the Wildfowl Trust, are up by 20 per cent and 50 per cent respectively, while French hens (red jungle fowl) have doubled in price to be £10 each. Colly birds, which are blackbirds, are £20 the four against £8 last year.

The rest of the economizing owes less to the Government's wage restriction policy than it does to an act of idiosyncratic generosity by the Musicians' Union. Maids a-milking are now on a minimum agricultural wage of £6.10 for an eight-hour day, 60p up on last year, while the ladies dancing, from the corps of Ballet Rambert, have had a 20 per cent rise.

But the Musicians' Union will no longer quote an hourly rate for nine drummers drumming or 10 pipers piping. Instead they suggest you book two four-hour performances at £12 per person each. The saving on last year's hourly rate of £4.16 a man is substantial, and perhaps illusory, but it's the thought that counts.

Rewarding

Ben Pochee is four years old and, with his six-year-old cousin Dominic, survived for a week in the Tanzanian jungle on leaves and 12 packets of chewing gum after his father's light aircraft collided with a mountain. Their reward, presented at Westminster Abbey yesterday, was trophies and scrolls from a women's magazine, a handshake with Mary Wilson, and Harry Secombe's autograph.

Eight other children were at the Abbey to receive *Woman's Own* "Children of Courage" awards from Mrs Wilson. They included Fiona Cummings, the seven-year-old from Newcastle who flew to Moscow for treatment for a rare eye disease, Michael Ellerington and Ian Watson who rescued a companion from drowning in a Hull dock, and Dawn Harding, who although only nine has had 19 operations for spina bifida and is confined to a wheelchair.

The Abbey choir sang Christmas carols, Secombe read out the citations, the Dean of Westminster said how glad he was that Mary would be able to have a few days with her family at Christmas, and six-year-old Karen Bradbury, who rescued her brother from a blazing bedroom, demanded to go to the toilet.

Clutching their scrolls and little golden birds set in perspex, the children were photographed with Secombe and Michael Crawford, and were whisked off to lunch at an hotel and a visit to a children's show at the Shaw Theatre. Meanwhile the hundred youngsters from London children's homes who had made up the congregation were led into an Aladdin's Cave behind the chapel and loaded to the gunwales with toys and giant packets of fruit gums. A box of Lego is worth 10 plastic trophies any day.

Big fish

Continuing our series on small publishers:

Maurice Temple Smith has had the sort of success that every small independent publisher might dream of. He set up on his own seven years ago after directorial stints with Secker and Warburg and Eyre and Spottiswoode. "I was the last man left in London that I could work for. I was very disillusioned with the whole big company thing and amalgamations which brought inefficiency and high cost and cut initiative and fun."

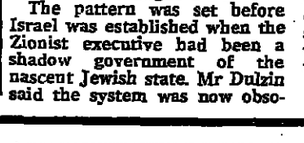
Now he publishes 20 books a year and the firm's turnover runs at a satisfactory two and a half times the capital employed. "We are better capitalized than many large firms in the amount we can spend per book, we have never turned anything down for lack of an advance, and we have always had the money to do what we thought best."

The explanation of this good fortune is partly that Temple Smith found an exceptional source of finance—an Indian conglomerate about the size of General Motors who wanted to invest a little in British publishing without controlling or interfering in the company.

Temple Smith does all the main editing himself. "I think publishing should be a cottage industry. I see no point in bringing everybody to a glass box in Feltham to sit on the edge of their desks drinking coffee and getting in everybody's way."

He is something of a big fish in the small publishing pond, because he has been "more active than most in developing the rationale". When he found his books getting relegated lower and lower down the lengthening list of David and Charles, the publishers who were distributing for him, he founded Book Representation Ltd, a distribution company specially designed to work for firms the size of his.

At the past rate of growth Temple Smith says his personal imprint would have an annual turnover of £1m in six years' time. "But I have no intention of letting it happen. I have reached the plateau, and in fact the practical difficulties involved have been staggeringly slight."



This sign, which makes allowance for unexpected eventualities like midnight sun and the like, was photographed near Champlain, New York, by L. Robert Scheuer, of Virginia.

Cheering

For none of the recipients of life peerages yesterday can the news have come at a more propitious time than for Tom Driberg, the former Labour MP and journalist. He is still recovering in Kenya from a heart attack which put him in hospital in Nairobi and prevented him from attending the assembly of the World Council of Churches, for which he had travelled there.

Having made a good recovery he returned to Nairobi yesterday after a short holiday on Kenya's Indian Ocean coast at Mombasa to be handed Wilson's letter.

Driberg's reaction was to describe it as a pleasant contrast to the run of bad luck he had recently encountered—and he said it had cheered him considerably.

It is not yet known when he will be able to take his seat in the Lords. To some extent that depends on the result of what he hopes will be his last consultation with his Nairobi doctor this week.

PHS

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TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
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SPENDING IS OUT OF CONTROL

Control of government spending is critical to the Chancellor's economic strategy for restoring general balance and stability to the economy towards the end of 1978. This makes the allegation that spending is out of control and likely under present arrangements to remain so doubly important.

This has long been suspected by the layman and by the not-so-layman. But the accusation was brought into sharp focus in evidence given to the House of Commons Expenditure Committee (General Sub-Committee) on November 6th by Mr Wynne Godley, the distinguished Cambridge economist and former Treasury adviser. The Treasury sought to defend itself against these criticisms in evidence and in a press notice of 21st November, to which Mr Godley has responded to good effect this week (December 19th) in the current edition of the brokers, Vickers da Costa's, circular "The British Economy".

The Chancellor's approach focuses on the budget deficit as specifically reflected in the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR). He argues that a large deficit is acceptable, indeed necessary, during the onset and fullest development of the recession, which he attributes mainly to the five-fold increase in oil prices and the balance of payments deficit that resulted from higher oil prices. He points out that other comparable countries have experienced as large or larger budget deficits proportionately to the size of their economies.

Autocratic forces

The important thing, according to Mr Healey, is to ensure that, as British economic activity recovers from 1976 under the stimulus of expanding world trade and rising British exports, the budget deficit is phased out so that, when full employment returns, the budget will be back in balance and the balance of payments will thereby be constrained towards balance as well. North Sea oil production and sales will be an additional bonus by then.

To some extent automatic forces will help to restore budget balance. Revenue rises as economic activity picks up. Some *forms of expenditure, especially* unemployment benefit, fall. Royalties from North Sea oil will help too. But the Chancellor has recognized that, in addition, planned Government spending in the years ahead must be reined back sharply from the levels projected in last January's public expenditure White Paper and that improved techniques are needed to ensure that planned totals are not exceeded.

This is the occasion for the bitter struggles over spending with which the Cabinet has been absorbed in recent months—in the intervals between more immediately pressing crises of government. In particular it is the basis of the fierce exchanges over defence spending which have erupted from time to time into public view.

Three main questions arise about the Chancellor's approach. Are he and the Treasury entitled to be complacent about the deficit in the present financial year? Is the Chancellor likely to achieve sufficient cuts in planned expenditure over the next three years to accommodate the needful recovery in private economic activity? Will the Treasury be able to keep actual spending to the planned ceilings?

Those who believe, as we do, that the critical controlling magnitude which determines the future path of monetary spending is the growth in the money supply can afford to be phlegmatic about the present budget deficit to the extent that it is not causing excessive growth in the money supply. So far, though the evidence is ambiguous, it does not appear to have done so.

However, there remain two causes for concern about the present deficit. One is the continuing evidence of lack of control, eloquently corroborated by the Chancellor himself in his Mansion House speech earlier this autumn. While the new cash limits seem to be having some success in reinforcing the £6 a week pay increase limit in the public sector, they have not prevented the *deficit in the* present financial year from rising above budget estimate by the equivalent of at least 3 per cent of gross national product, an enormous reflation by Keynesian standards.

The second cause for concern *about the* immediate deficit is that it is creating a situation in which the Treasury will have extreme difficulty in controlling monetary expansion when economic recovery begins. The liquidity of the commercial banks is high; and to prevent this being converted into the kind of expansion of credit and money which so disfigured Mr Barber's Chancellorship the authorities will have to apply truly draconian measures.

Such measures will seem politically *out of the question just* when recovery is getting under way, as Mr Heath found in 1973. So there is a real danger that the present uncontrolled, though so far innocuous, deficit is laying the foundations of a more operationally damaging loss of control of monetary conditions next year.

Until the next public expenditure White Paper is published in the new year it will not be possible to assess whether the Chancellor's reining back of *spending* over the next three years is sufficient. The indications are that he has been demanding cuts which, from the point of view of the spending departments, are large indeed.

Real danger

Equally these cuts are running him into strong political resistance inside and outside Whitehall not least from those who claim to favour economy in general but jib at it in particular. The obvious danger is that the Prime Minister, in order to muster Cabinet support for resisting the projected defence cuts to which he is opposed—and there must indeed be concern about the effect on defence policy—will make common cause with other spending ministers on the basis of an alliance for spending. If the Chancellor is thus outnumbered, he will not achieve the cuts in planned spending which he thinks necessary.

This leaves what is the most practically important question: even if the next public expenditure White Paper lays out the right path for spending over the rest of this decade, is there any reasonable prospect that it would be followed? Mr Godley has thrown great doubt on this by showing that nearly £5,000m more was spent by Government in 1974-75 than can be accounted for by the plans originally announced in the 1971 White Paper as adjusted for inflation *and subsequently announced* changes in policy.

The Treasury's defence is that they can account for all of this difference and that it is all explained by unannounced policy changes, uncontrollable items (like debt interest, farm subsidies and unemployment pay) and faster pay and price rises in the public sector than in the economy as a whole (known as the "relative price effect"). A bankrupt could as well tell his creditors that his spending was under control *because he could account* for every penny he had lost in terms of conscious spending impulses, unavoidable commitments and swindling by his suppliers.

Keeping records is not keeping control, least of all when those records show that the concept *of what can be afforded has* played no decisive part in limiting expenditure in resisting excessive prices or in seeking compensating savings when unavoidable liabilities exceed expectations. If the Treasury once allow the Public Expenditure *Survey Committee (PESC)* system to degenerate from a system of control into a system of forecasting and record-keeping —so that the figures are made to accommodate the policies rather than the policies to fit the figures, as began to happen under Mr (now Lord) Barber's Chancellorship—then control is lost. Between 1972 and early 1975 ministers got into the habit of approving expensive individual policies without sufficient regard to their impact on overall economic and financial policies.

It only required in addition a burst of massive inflation to overwhelm PESC control by breaking through one fatal flaw in its structure. This was the provision that allows spending departments to adjust their *spending budgets upwards almost* automatically to accommodate any increase in the pay and price levels which confront them specifically. All incentive to resist gross exploitation by suppliers and employees is thus removed.

Fatal flaw

The PESC system remains in concept the most constructive and imaginative institutional contribution to rational government since competitive entry to the Civil Service. But it urgently needs reinforcement by four new Prime Ministerial rules.

First, that the PESC figures are in themselves a policy commitment which override all particular policy commitments. Secondly, that when substantial *changes in particular policies* or new commitments are necessary these do not and cannot become government policy until specific compensating savings have been identified and embodied in revised PESC allocations to spending departments or, if the overall total is to be increased, until the consequential taxing and financing arrangements have been specified and accepted and until the changes have been announced to Parliament. Thirdly, that all uncontrollable *commitments* be constantly monitored and, when they threaten to exceed the provision in PESC, compensating adjustments be made forthwith as under the second rule. Fourthly, that when the "constant price" figures for future years, including the planned allowance for the relative price effect, mature into the actual estimates for the present year, allowance shall only be made for the general erosion of money values since the plans were laid and that the resulting figures shall apply as cash limits.

The Exchequer and Audit Departments Act, 1866, and other appropriate legislation should be amended so that it shall be the duty and within the power of the Comptroller and Auditor-General, and of comparably responsible officials in local government and in public corporations, to ensure that no spending does or can occur outside this framework of control. This would still not prevent excessive spending. But then at least it could be said that, if spending was excessive, it could only have become so because of the conscious and deliberate decision of ministers to make it so in full knowledge of the financial and economic consequences.

MR MULLEY'S COERCION BILL

Mr Mulley has now published his Bill to coerce the small group of Conservative-controlled local education authorities that could not be cajoled by circular to reorganize their secondary schools along comprehensive lines. It is a deplorable decision for all those who do not share his faith in the virtue of a monolithic comprehensive monopoly in secondary education. *It is a* blunt weapon which must seem even to committed advocates of comprehensive reorganization to be quite out of proportion to the scale of the problem. Its use will have a fundamental effect on the balance of responsibility between central Government and local education authorities struck in the Education Act of 1944.

Even if the aims of Labour policy on secondary education are accepted as generally desirable—and the outright opposition of a minority of parents to comprehensive schools and the genuine bewilderment of a much larger number makes this assumption far from sure—the Bill is an unnecessary show of political force. Perhaps the decision to resort to such a display is partly intended to curb any doubts about the practice, if not the principle, of comprehensive education that may still linger in Labour minds. Of the 105 local education authorities in England and Wales, 98 *have* reorganized, are in the process of reorganizing, or have agreed in principle to reorganize their secondary schools along comprehensive lines. Only seven authorities have refused even to submit plans for going comprehensive.

Within ten years comprehensive schools will have become the predominant pattern for the organization of *secondary education*. However, Mr Mulley is not content that they be merely the predominant pattern. He has gone to the considerable trouble of introducing this Bill to ensure that comprehensive schools *become the universal pattern* from which no divergence is tolerated. Although the real political choice is no longer between a selective and a comprehensive system of secondary education but between the predominance of comprehensives and their *monopoly*, the Secretary of State has chosen not to seek an armistice but instead to demand unconditional surrender.

This Bill will also upset the traditional balance of responsibility for education between *central* and local government, although Mr Mulley assured the House of Commons at the end of last month that the Bill would not give him power to substitute his scheme of reorganization for that submitted by a local authority. Under the terms of this Bill the organization of secondary education will in practice no longer be a matter for local discretion, or even for *the courts to determine whether* a scheme meets the general principle laid down in clause 1, but for the subjective judgment of the Secretary of State and his officials.

No doubt the broad discretion granted to Mr Mulley is the only practical way to ensure conformity to the Government's wishes on this matter without endless and probably fruitless litigation. On the other hand its terms do amount to a substantial erosion of the powers of local authorities which may in the future have serious consequences for the quality of both education and local government. Three years ago the Labour Party argued that among the most objectionable features of the Housing Finance Act was the withdrawal from local authorities of the discretion to charge the council house rents which they believed were appropriate. Exactly the same criticism can be levelled against Mr Mulley's Bill. This Bill will make comprehensive reorganization a much *more divisive issue*—which will please the zealots on both sides. Its introduction can only make it more difficult to place secondary education policy on Sir Keith Joseph's common ground of politics.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Establishing rules for referenda

From Mr Nevil Johnson

Sir, The approach to establishing rules for referendums which Geoffrey Smith suggests in his article (December 17) is not very convincing. In effect he proposes that we proceed by saying: "let us establish a convention that we will only have a referendum when certain grave conditions are met". But that is not how conventions are really established, and it certainly offers little prospect of determining genuine rules for the use of referendum. The EEC referendum was an act of political expediency: it neither rested on nor did it point the way to any rules governing the *use of the device. In the present* condition of this country an appeal to "conventions" is likely to leave us in the same expedient position: the government of the day would decide what were the conventions applying to referendum.

There are only two ways out of this situation which allow referendum subject to clear and certain rules. One would be for Parliament to pass a general referendum Act enumerating the issues on which referendum would be permissible. Perhaps these would be chiefly constitutional such as the examples Mr Smith quoted, though it is clear that beyond his short-list we get into serious problems. Might not the right to associate (and not to also be such a constitutional question? But in addition, even if Parliament were to enumerate the circumstances in which a referendum could be held, it would also have to prescribe rules for bringing about a referendum. Would it need a motion of the Crown's ministers approved by Parliament? Would the procedure need to be less discretionary than this, involving other political organs than Government and House of Commons? Might there be a case for referendum after petition, ie, by popular initiative in relation to the issues enumerated?

The further one goes in this matter, trying to devise rules for referendum, the more one is pushed on to the second possibility. This is the radical solution of a written constitution. Within that context it becomes relatively easy to provide for referendum (and for popular initiatives). One simply has to stipulate that any change in the constitution or changes in specified parts of it shall be submitted to the people. The objectionable device of referendum at the discretion of the Government of the day disappears.

All this is not to pronounce on the merits of such a solution. It is merely to suggest that if we think seriously about the problem of "rules for referendums" then we must go a long way beyond the search for conventions envisaged by Mr Smith. It becomes of necessity *an exercise in constitution-building*, and of a pretty radical sort because it actually brings in the people.

Yours faithfully,
NEVIL JOHNSON,
Nuffield College,
Oxford.
December 17.

Case of the TV licences

From Lord Chorley, QC

Sir, Mr T. A. Roberts (December 9) is singularly lacking in understanding and indeed in appreciation of the British Constitution. And as so often Bernard Levin made a sound point under his witty camouflage.

In the 1630s Whitehall was clearly right in thinking that the British fleet needed the spending of more money on it. But unfortunately for the Executive they had not obtained parliamentary sanction for levying the ship money tax, and it was on this "technicality" that John Hampden resisted, and won for himself a deathless fame. No doubt the Robertses of the times who met the demands made on them for the illegal exaction felt "aggrieved" at Hampden's refusal to contribute to the country's defence. But history *proved him right—they failed in the* end to get away with it.

I am yours, etc,
CHORLEY,
House of Lords,

Absent friends

From Lieutenant General Sir John Evetts and others

Sir, On several occasions in recent years representations have been made to the Royal British Legion that British Gurkhas should be represented in the Grand Muster.

Most of the corps and services and Commonwealth countries appear, but the gallant men from the Kingdom of Nepal who have served the armed forces of the Crown for 150 years, including two world wars, and more recently in the jungles of Brunei, seem to be neglected each year.

Two days before the Festival they were shown in the Press doing guard duties at Buckingham Palace, and there is a unit based in this country, so why are they excluded? Distance can no longer be the explanation.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN F. EVETTS,
M. J. C. CHAMBERS,
R. R. HILES,
British Legion,
Beckford and Ashton-under-Hill Branch.
Kemerton,
Tewkesbury.

Australian election

From Miss Enid Lakeman

Sir, "A narrow victory for Mr Fraser could perhaps have been represented as a newspaper-fanned vote against unemployment without being a vote of confidence in Sir John Kerr." But wasn't the victory in fact fairly narrow?

The latest figures available show that the routed Labour Party was supported by nearly half the voters —47 per cent.

The "verdict" was that not of Australia but of the single-member alternative vote system, which has given, to an even greater extent than usual, a quite false impression of the Australian electors' opinions.

Yours faithfully,
ENID LAKEMAN, Director,
Electoral Reform Society,
6 Chancel Street,
Southwark, SE1.
December 15.

Problems of British Rail

From Dr Richard Pryke and Mr John Dodgson

Sir, We have come under furious attack from Mr Richard Marsh (December 17) and Mr Sidney Weighell (December 18) for detailing BR's inefficiencies, and arguing in our book *The Rail Problem* that a system of roughly the present shape and size could be made financially viable.

Unfortunately Mr Marsh does not address himself to any of the real points at issue, but simply says that the Railways Board are all honourable men. His letter would have carried more conviction if he had not descended to peevish abuse and ignored the cases we cite in which the railways misled the Government.

Mr Weighell's letter, despite its uncomradely language, is a more serious contribution. He gives details of the way in which the railways have reduced their assets and manpower. It is surprising to hear Mr Weighell quoting as evidence of achievement figures—including the *reduction in route mileage*—that he usually cites in support of his contention that the railway system has been butchered. Be this as it may, there is no doubt that BR made substantial progress in raising its efficiency during the 1960s. Indeed one of us described this at length in a previous book and our figures were *used by the NUR in* one of its wage claims.

However, during more recent years there has been virtually no improvement in efficiency. The period 1969-74 saw a small reduction in rail employment (19,400) but this was almost completely offset by the reduction in traffic and there was scarcely any gain in output per worker.

Even if BR's record were as good as Mr Weighell supposes, this would prove nothing about the scope which it has for making further gains in productivity. It can scarcely be disputed that BR is woefully inefficient; *certainly Mr Marsh has* made no attempt to refute the charge in his various lucubrations.

As Mr Weighell is well aware, fully braked freight trains still carry guards, although they are superfluous and travel in the rear cab of the locomotive. Guards are also unnecessary on those passenger trains that have power doors. BR has about 7,000 former firemen who could be dispensed with as they have in some continental countries. Partly due to restrictive arrangements, BR's drivers only drive for about 3½ hours per turn of duty. Thousands of unnecessary ticket inspectors are employed because, unlike the continental railways, BR has not switched to open terminals and its inter-city travellers have their tickets checked on the platform as well as on the train. The Board has failed to slim down its enormous bureaucracy, which number over 40,000, and earlier this year abandoned its scheme for making an economy of up to 6,500 workers.

With a limited amount of capital expenditure further large savings in manpower would be possible by eliminating loose coupled wagons, speeding up freight trains from their *present pitiful average of 22 mph* and installing automatic ticket barriers on commuter routes. Our detailed estimates suggest that in these and other ways BR's manpower might be reduced from 225,000 in 1974 to 153,000 by 1981 without any increase in capital expenditure.

One might have thought that Mr Marsh who has presided over the railway's financial debacle, would, if only for appearance sake, have expressed some polite interest in our findings.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD PRYKE,
JOHN DODGSON,
Department of Economics,
University of Liverpool.
December 18.

From Mr J. P. Mervis

Sir, The "logical model" presented by Mr Weighell in defence of railway staff productivity is itself a basis for arriving at the irresistible conclusion that there is extensive overmanning at British Rail.

Using the same logic and Mr Weighell's figures, whereas rolling stock, stations and depots and rail mileage have been cut by an average of about 72 per cent since 1962, staff levels have been reduced by only about 42 per cent over the same period. Or put another way, in terms of a *pro rata* reduction there should be about 69,000 fewer workers than employed at present.

All this of course ignores any further work force reduction which would have arisen through modernizations in technology over the same period.

Yours faithfully,
I. P. MERVIS,
21 Evron Court.
Mecklenburgh Square, WC1.
December 18.

Busways for railways

From Mr A. C. Dalgleish

Sir, Professor Hall's study of the expected benefits from railway conversion (reported by Michael Baily December 17) at last puts an authoritative figure to them.

Twenty years ago, at a crowded meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Brigadier Lloyd first propounded this, then revolutionary, idea. It is doubtful whether at that time sufficient information was available on transport economics and busway capacity for a definitive study to be carried out. However, for the past 10 years at least the essential facts have been available to those who chose to look for them.

It is an indictment of our planning procedures that successive *governments have totally ignored* this alternative, but to the credit of the present Administration that a study has now been done.

To those who keep their eyes open to what is happening elsewhere in the world it has for long been obvious that there is no role for modern railways in a small island surrounded by all-weather ports. Professor Hall's Report should now lead us towards rational transport policies.

Yours faithfully,
ANGUS DALGLEISH, Chairman,
Railway Conversion League Ltd.
Shouson Hill,
Ruxbury Road,
Chertsey, Surrey.
December 17.

The MacDonald Papers

From Mr David Marquand, Labour MP for Ashfield

Sir, I am grateful to the Keeper of Public Records for setting out the facts about the MacDonald papers, which are at present in my care. May I add these comments?

As the Keeper has now made clear (letters, December 17) there is no truth whatever in Mr Humphry Berkeley's suggestion that I am in some mysterious way acting improperly in keeping the papers in my house until my work on them is finished. But for the generosity of the MacDonald family there would be no question of the papers being deposited in the PRO at all.

Mr Berkeley's suggestion (letters, December 15) that I have prevented other historians from seeing the papers is as baseless as are his other suggestions. A huge army of academics and graduate students has tramped through my house while I have had custody of the papers—sometimes at some inconvenience to myself and my family. Mr Berkeley will, no doubt, soon be reading Dr Skidelsky's study of the 1929 Government, Dr Morgan's biography of Keir Hardie, Mr Cowling's two studies of politics in the 1920s and 1930s, Captain Roskill's biography of Hankey, Drs Donoughue and Jones's biography of Morrison, Dr Thorne's study of the Shanghai crisis, Dr Wrench's doctoral dissertation on the National Government and Dr Janeway's dissertation on the economic policy of the second Labour Government. He cannot have read them already, or he would know that all these authors had access to the MacDonald papers. So have numerous others.

I have not been able to fit in all the people who wanted to see the papers—my house is, after all, a private house and not a public archive—but I have gone out of my way to fit in as many as possible. I have enjoyed doing so and have profited greatly from the exchange of ideas which has resulted. But I sometimes think I would have made faster progress with my own book if I had not done so.

Had Mr Berkeley been commissioned to write the biography of Ramsay MacDonald instead of me, the papers would, no doubt, be in his custody and not in mine. In such circumstances, I might, I suppose, feel as sore about the situation as he appears to feel. I cannot believe that I would have found it appropriate to write to you on the subject—still less that I would have done so without first ascertaining the facts.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID MARQUAND,
House of Commons.
December 17.

Tories and social sciences

From Mr Andrew Shonfield

Sir, Your correspondent Mr David Walker (November 21, p5) has managed, by selective and careless quotation, to give a *misleading* impression of the sense of my article in the latest issue of the Social Science Research Council *Newsletter*. Nobody reading the headline, "Tory leaders accused of decrying social sciences", would guess that what I actually said about *Keith Joseph was that he* was personally very sympathetic to the social science approach to the welfare problems that have always exercised him deeply, and he was later, as Minister in Mr Heath's government, to be an ally and supporter of the SSRC." What was troublesome was his suspicion, *which expressed itself before he be*came a Minister—not in 1970-71 as your correspondent reported—about the *membership* of the council and its committees.

Indeed, that was the problem to which my article was chiefly addressed. It asked how one could ensure in future that ministerial prejudices *about individual social scientists* were subjected to more formal constraints than they have been hitherto. As I said, my proposal was "not a scheme to protect the social sciences from the Tories", because the difficulty "could just as well arise from a change in the other direction". It is *the change from* one administration to another which arouses the kind of partisan feeling which may affect appointments to the Social Science Research Council. What I was asking was that the SSRC should be recognized as being a politically sensitive research body —somewhat different in this respect from the other research councils—and should have appropriate political safeguards built into it.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW SHONFIELD,
21 Paultons Square, SW3.

Planning disputes

From Mrs Mary Lochner

Sir, Professor Warmington (December 10) has highlighted reasons for delay and abortive expenditure resulting from continued reapplication, often marginally altered, for planning consent against previous refusals by the authority concerned.

Some decisions are adamant and some more adamant than others as in the case he quotes.

Each application must be judged on its merits involving processing *by officers before coming* to a district council committee, a county council committe and sometimes in the West Sussex scheme, a planning coordinating committee followed by a possible appeal and yet more highly qualified officer time.

It would be a planner's cloud cuckoo land to expect that applicants would accept a clearly stated and staunchly upheld policy for an area but they might be deterred and expense to both rate and taxpayer avoided if it were established that cumulative costs would result.

The Dobry Report has been rejected but it would be helpful if the *relevant section could be operated* on behalf of hard pressed councils and the public they serve.

Yours faithfully,
MARY LOCHNER, Chairman,
County Planning Committee,
West Sussex County Council.
Chichester, West Sussex.

Aid for political parties

From the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain

Sir, In writing (December 13) about the Houghton Committee and its consideration of whether "provision should be made from public funds to assist political parties", George Hutchinson said: "All are in urgent need of funds—Labour, Liberal, *Conservative and nationalist alike.* The same could no doubt be claimed (but might not be correct) for the Communists. . . ."

May I draw your readers' and George Hutchinson's attention to the following paragraph from evidence submitted by the Executive Committee of the Communist Party to the Houghton Committee:

"Like the other parties, and indeed all institutions and individuals, the Communist Party faces substantial increases in costs. These fall particularly heavily on us because we neither receive donations from firms nor affiliations from trade unions or other bodies. All of our funds are derived *from membership contri*butions, special financial appeals, collections at meetings and among supporters, sales of literature, bazaars, social events, lotteries and other activities organized by our members and branches."

We then went on to set out our income during 1974-1975 in some detail for the benefit of the Houghton Committee. Further, we expressed our view that state aid to political parties would place them in a position of at least partial dependence upon the state, and continued "We can think of few things which would be more harmful to the development of democratic political life."

We also argued in our evidence that the British political system is heavily weighted in favour of the two large parties, and that the two-party monopoly of political life has blurred the great political issues of *our time, debilitating political dis*cussion. The *conclusion of our* evidence was that—"we therefore *do not support state financial aid to* the day-to-day activities of the parties".

We do, however, believe that the state should give more financial assistance to candidates contesting parliamentary and local elections, and we restated some proposals we made in 1965 to the Speakers Conference on electoral reform.

As we said to the Houghton Committee, the Communist Party is indeed in urgent need of funds, but are confident we will raise this money from our members and from *men and women who are of the view* that the policies we advocate are essential to the solution of Britain's crisis. Other political parties should raise their funds in a similar manner, and not be dependent on state aid.

Yours sincerely,
GORDON McLENNAN, General Secretary,
Communist Party of Great Britain,
16 King Street, WC2.

Relief of suffering

From Mr Nicholas Reed

Sir, In arguing that Lady Wootton's Bill is unnecessary, Dr J. F. Searle states that nowadays "even severe pain can be relieved without producing unconsciousness". However, hospices which specialize in terminal care admit that, in spite of their efforts, 1 per cent of their patients receive "inadequate relief *from pain*", and *seven such cases* are described in detail in Appendix I of the Anglican booklet *On Dying Well*. Thus, even the best possible treatment cannot always eliminate the problem.

Dr Searle also blurs an important distinction which was well made by Mr Ian Kennedy in his letter of November 25. Letting a patient die because the brain is dead is a wholly different matter from letting them die because they have no chance of a reasonable quality of life in the future. Karen Quinlan is an example of the second case: her brain is technically alive, but every*one agrees that recovery* is inconceivable.

In these latter cases, the duty of the doctor is indeed problematic, but his first responsibility is still to his patient, as you, Sir, so rightly said in your leader of November 21. When a patient has previously stated his wish to refuse life-sustaining treatment unless there is a chance of recovery, his wishes have a right to be respected. If Lady Wootton's Bill is designed to give legal sanction to his rights in such a situation there seems much to commend it.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS REED,
Committee Member, Voluntary Euthanasia Society,
13 Prince of Wales Terrace, W8.
December 13.

Votes from Chrysler

From Professor A. R. Prest

Sir, Whatever the precise present value of the public handout to Chrysler and whatever the precise jobs impact, it is quite clear that this is essentially a vote-purchasing operation.

May we assume that the next Supply Estimates will contain a new Vote "cost of purchasing votes £x million"? It would be helpful to have a supplementary note showing whether the price of a vote has kept pace with inflation since the Reform Act of 1832 (a new dimension of the relative price effect, perhaps). Maybe the Chancellor could also be prevailed upon to say whether such *transactions constitute a charge*able supply under VAT.

Yours faithfully,
A. R. PREST,
Department of Economics,
London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2.
December 17.

Loch Ness monster

From the Rev B. L. Hebblethwaite

Sir, If I were a prehistoric monster, extreme shyness would be the last of my characteristics. Being endowed with a puny brain, and of a slow-witted disposition, I should be sticking my neck out all over the place.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN HEBBLETHWAITE,
Queens' College,
Cambridge.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 18: Mr Justice Goff had the honour of being received by The Queen this morning upon his appointment as a Justice of the High Court of Justice when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood.

His Excellency Mr Frederick Kiiragura Isingoma was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for the Republic of Uganda in London.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the High Commission who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mr Jamada Luzinda (Minister Counsellor), Mr Masum Abdalla (Third Secretary), Mr Francis Pule (Third Secretary), Mr Ben Emiku (Third Secretary) and Mr *Idi Osman (Third Secretary)*.

Mrs Isingoma had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir Michael Palliser (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present and the Gentlemen of *the Household in Waiting were in* attendance.

Mr Harold Smedley was received in audience by The Queen upon his appointment as British High Commissioner in New Zealand.

Mrs Smedley had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

Sir Thomas Monnington (*President of the Royal Academy of* Arts) and Mr Sidney Hutchison (Secretary) had the honour of being received by The Queen and submitted the business of the Institution.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President, this evening attended the National Playing Fields Association *Jubilee Ball at Grosvenor* House.

Lord Rupert Nevill was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales arrived at Wadsley Bridge Station in the Royal Train this morning and drove to visit the Spastics Work Centre at Oughtbridge and Maud Maxwell School for the Deaf at Ecclesall.

His Royal Highness later visited the University of Sheffield and *unveiled a plaque to commemorate* the opening of the new Building of Psychology.

The Prince of Wales subsequently attended a Variety Club of Great Britain luncheon at Cutlers' Hall and this afternoon left Royal Air Force Finningley in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight for Heathrow Airport, London.

His Royal Highness, Patron, this evening attended a Gala Performance of *L'elisir d'Amore* given in aid of the Royal Opera Benevolent Fund at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the Save the Children Fund, this afternoon visited St George's Hospital, Blackshaw Road, Tooting, and was received upon arrival by the *Senior Nursing Officer (Miss J.* Parker).

Her Royal Highness, President of the Society of Film and Television Arts, was present this evening at the Premiere of the film *The Man who would be King* at the Odeon, Leicester Square.

Miss Rowena Brassey was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
December 18: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, accompanied by Princess Alexandra, the Hon Mrs Angus Ogilvy, and the Hon Angus Ogilvy, was present this evening at a Gala Performance of *L'elisir d'Amore* given in aid of the Royal Opera Benevolent Fund at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

The Dowager Viscountess Hambleden and Captain Alastair Aird were in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
December 18: Princess Alexandra, Vice-President of the British Red Cross Society, was present at the Meeting of the Council held this morning at the National Headquarters.

The Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

The Hon Mrs Stonor-Saunders much regrets that she was unable to attend yesterday's requiem Mass for Archbishop David Mathew, owing to a motor accident.

Princess Alexandra will be present at a piano recital by Miss Joan Davies, in aid of the British Sailors' Society, at Fishmongers' Hall on February 19.

Birthdays today

Mr John Bowle, 70; Sir Charles Duke, 70; Viscount Head, 69; Professor T. H. Marshall, 82; Brigadier C. G. Martin, VC, 84; Sir Andrew Murray, 72; Sir William Murrie, 72; Professor Arthur Newell, 90; Professor L. P. Pugh, 80; Count Edward Raczynski, 84; the Right Rev Dr G. E. Reindorp, 64; Sir Ralph Richardson, 73; Lord Rowallan, 80.

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The Pope sees a new dawn for evangelism in modern world

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Dec 18

The Pope states in a document issued here today that in the modern world "it would be no exaggeration to say that there exists a powerful and tragic appeal to be evangelized."

He sees the situation as paradoxical. A new secularism was the source of new forms of atheism, no longer abstract, but *systematic and militant*. "*Hand* in hand with this atheistic secularism, we are daily faced, *under the most diverse forms*, with a consumer society, the pursuit of pleasure set up as the supreme value, a desire for power and domination, and discrimination of every kind—the inhuman tendencies of this 'humanism'.

"But, on the other hand, one could not deny the existence of real stepping stones to Christianity, and of evangelical values at least in the form of a sense of emptiness or nostalgia."

The Pope's remarks are in his Apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, devoted to *the subject of evangelization in* the modern world.

He makes clear that he regards this as an historic document of his reign. It marks the tenth anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, the impending closing of the Holy Year and the result of papal interpretation of the Synod of Bishops which met a year ago to discuss evangelization.

The Pope insists that there is a profound link between Christ, the Church and evangelization. "It is certainly fitting", he adds, "to recall this fact at a moment like the present one when it happens that not without sorrow, *we can hear people*—whom we wish to believe are well intentioned but who are certainly misguided in their attitude—*continually claiming to love* Christ but without the Church, to listen to Christ but not the Church, to belong to Christ but *outside the Church. The absurdity* of this dichotomy is clearly evident in this phrase of the Gospel: 'Anyone who rejects you rejects me.'"

He is characteristically insistent on the unique significance of the Papacy. "The successor of Peter is thus, but the will of Christ, entrusted with the preeminent ministry of teaching the revealed truth . . . the full, *supreme* and universal power which Christ gives to his Vicar for the pastoral government of his Church is thus specially exercised by the Pope in the activity of preaching and causing to be preached the good news of salvation."

The Pope takes into consideration, nevertheless, a comparatively wide field of potentially *difficult forces in the Catholic* ranks.

Turning to the subject of political liberation, he says: "We must not ignore the fact that many, even generous Christians who are sensitive to the dramatic questions involved in the problem of liberation, in their wish to commit the Church to the liberation effort are frequently tempted to reduce her mission to the dimensions of a simply temporal project."

He explains the Church's position as *providing Christian* "liberators" with the inspiration of faith, the motivation of fraternal love, a social teaching which the true Christian cannot ignore and which he must make the foundation of his wisdom and of his experience in order to translate it concretely into forms of action, participation and commitment.

"All this must characterize the *spirit* of a *committed* Christian, without confusion with tactical attitudes or with the services of a political system. The Church strives always to insert the Christian struggle for liberation into the universal plan of salvation which she herself proclaims."

His Holiness gives his own sketch of how he sees a proper evangelizer: "Every *evangelizer* is expected to have a reverence for truth, especially since the truth that he studies and communicates is none other than revealed truth and hence, more than any other, a sharing in the first truth which is God Himself.

"The preacher of the Gospel will be, therefore, a person who even at the price of personal *renunciation and suffering*, always seeks the truth that he must transmit to others. He never betrays or hides truth out of a desire to please men, in order to astonish or to shock, nor for the sake of originality or a desire to make an impression.

"He does not refuse truth. He does not obscure revealed *truth* by being too idle to search for it, or for the sake of his own comfort or out of fear. He does not neglect to study it. He serves it generously, without making it serve him."

The Pope concludes with a "heartfelt plea" that the effect of this Holy Year be carried forward: "May the light of the *Holy Year, which has shone in* the local churches and in Rome for millions of consciences reconciled with God, continue to shine in the same way after the jubilee through a programme of pastoral action with evangelization as its basic feature, for these years which mark the eve of a new century, the eve also of the third millenium of Christianity."

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. I. Andrews and Miss S. U. D. Choudree
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs Edward Ison Andrews, of Woodbridge, Suffolk, and Sangamithra, only daughter of Mrs Ansuyah Choudree, of Durban, South Africa, and the late Mr Ashwin Choudree.

Mr R. R. Davies and Miss G. F. Atkey
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr R. R. Davies, and the late Mrs Davies, of Penarth, Glamorgan, and Genefer, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs C. N. J. Atkey, of Bickington, Devon.

Mr S. O. Fradd and Miss E. H. Birtwhistle
The engagement is announced between Simon Oakley Fradd, son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Fradd, of Otford, Kent, and Elizabeth Harriet Birtwhistle, daughter of the Rev A. and Mrs Birtwhistle, of *Wesley's Chapel, City Road, EC1.*

Mr J. H. Osborn and Mrs J. M. MacDermot
The engagement is announced between John Holbrook, elder son of the late Mr S. E. Osborn and Mrs A. D. Osborn, of Sheffield, and Joan Mary, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs A. G. Wilkinson, of Buenos Aires.

Mr P. G. Webster and Miss E. M. L. Steavenson
The engagement is announced between Peter Giles, son of the late Peter S. Webster and of Mrs Beryl Webster, of Easton Hall, Easton, *Woodbridge, Suffolk, and* Elizabeth Mary Lucy, daughter of Dr and Mrs R. S. Steavenson, of Felix Lodge, Middleton-St-George, co Durham.

Mr C. G. B. Warren and Miss P. M. Madgwick
The engagement is announced between *Christopher George* Bodley, youngest son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs J. F. Warren, of Lazerton Farm, Stourpaine, Blandford, Dorset, and Penelope Mary, younger daughter of Captain E. T. G. Madgwick, DSC, RCN (Retd), and Mrs Madgwick, of Holwell, Whit*church, Tavistock, Devon.*

Mr J. G. Brewer and Miss H. C. A. MacDonald
The engagement *is* announced between Jonathan George, younger son of Mr and Mrs Gansel Brewer, of Chobham, Surrey, and Holma Catherine Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ewer MacDonald, of St Osyth, Essex.

Mr A. E. Henson and Mrs C. A. Thorold
The engagement is announced between Edward, only son of Colonel and Mrs J. D. Henson, of Senlac, The Hockering, Woking, Surrey, and Carolyn, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Martin Pollock, of Heather Mount, Chobham, Surrey.

Mr P. Hughes and Miss M. F. Prichard
The engagement *is* announced between Peter, only son of Mr and Mrs W. N. Hughes, of Brockweir, near Chepstow, and Mary, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs *M. P. Prichard, of Cardiff.*

Mr R. J. M. Paul and Miss A. M. Driver
The engagement is announced between Robin Paul, only son of Mr and Mrs Richard Paul, of Henley-on-Thames, and Anne Driver, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Driver, of Burton-on-Trent.

Mr N. J. T. Tyrrell-Evans and Miss P. J. Clarke
The engagement is announced between Nicholas Tyrrell-Evans, of Woodsford Square, London, W14, son of the late Mr and Mrs H. G. Tyrrell-Evans, of Capel, Surrey, *and Jane, daughter of Major and* Mrs J. H. A. Clarke, of Sunnyhill, Bury St Edmunds.

Mr G. H. Streatfeild and Miss A. C. Edwards
The engagement is announced between George, younger son of Commander and Mrs C. E. J. *Streatfeild, of Denhay, Broadoak*, Bridport, and Amanda, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C. W. Edwards, of The Gables, Bridport.

Mr J. B. West and Miss C. Batty
The engagement is announced between John, youngest son of Mrs V. C. West and the late Mr K. W. West, of Great Longstone, Derbyshire, and Caroline, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Batty, of Bakewell, Derbyshire.

Marriage

Sir Andrew Duff Gordon and Miss E. V. Soames
The marriage took place yesterday at Chelsea Register Office of Sir Andrew Duff Gordon, of *Downton* House, Walton, Presteigne, Powys, and Miss Eveline Virginia Soames, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Sam Soames, of Boxford House, Newbury, Berkshire. A service of blessing was held afterwards at Chelsea Old Church.

Dinner

Institute of Practitioners in Advertising
Mr John Freeman, Chairman and Chief Executive of London Weekend Television, was the guest of honour at the council dinner of *the Institute* of Practitioners in Advertising held at Goldsmiths' Hall last night. Dr John Treasure, president of the institute, presided.

25 years ago

From The Times of Tuesday, December 19, 1950

The BBC's recent statement on the growth of television as a national habit has again drawn attention to what may *in time* become a serious competitor to the British film industry.

So far there has been no need, it is stated, for the cinema industry to be worried by the competition of television as an evening entertainment. But in America the situation is entirely different, and as a result *there* has come about the idea of meeting the competition of television by showing films of unusual merit for long runs in certain cinemas.

Memorial services

Lady Strange
A memorial service was held on December 17 for Lady Strange in Megginch Chapel. The Dean of St Andrews, the Very Rev Thurstan Irvine, officiated. An address was given by Major Noël Jardine-Paterson, and lessons were read by her granddaughters, Amélie and Catherine Drummond. Her grandsons, Humphrey and John Drummond, played an organ and accordion duet of "Amazing *Grace", and Pipe Major A.* Robertson played the pipes. Among others present were:

Captain and the Hon Mrs Drummond of Megginch (son-in-law and daughter), Mr Adam Drummond, yr of Megginch (grandson), the Dowager Countess of Mansfield, Lord Inchyra, Lady Kinnaird, Lady Anstice, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Michael Anstice, Lady Cayzer, Sir James Cayzer, Mr Nigel Galliers-Pratt, Mrs R. O. Heriot Maitland, Mr Mark Murray Threipland of Fingask, Mr Gavin Murray Threipland, Mrs E. H. M. Cox of Glendoick, Mrs P. Cox, Mrs B. Hamilton of Gloncarse, Mrs G. Knox Findlay, Mrs M. Blacklock, Mr G. Cox of Gourdie, Mrs J. Drummond-Moray, Mr and Mrs P. Drummond-Hay, Mrs F. Ogilvie, Mrs Noel Jardine-Paterson, Mrs Thurstan Irvine, Mrs G. Richmond, Mrs D. Moncrieff, Mrs J. Rodwell, Mr R. Leach, Mr A. Mair, Mr T. Logie, Mr and Mrs G. Ogston, Mr and Mrs R. Tait and Mr and Mrs R. Bell.

Dr F. Bach
A memorial service for Dr Francis Bach was held on December 17 at the Church of St Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe, London, *EC4*. The Rector, the Rev F. P. Coleman, officiated. Professor Sir Hedley Atkins gave an address. Among those present were:

Mrs Francis Bach, Mr and Mrs John Bach, Emily and Alexander Bach, Mr and Mrs Timothy Raikes, Ben and Sophie Raikes, Mr and Mrs Hugh West, Mrs Lily Fischl, Mrs R. Russell, Mr and Mrs Henry Thompson, Dr and Mrs David Thompson, Miss Winifred Dawe.

Mr M. C. G. Andrews (Arthritis and Rheumatism Council), Dr C. Hardwick (Assurance Medical Society), Dr Douglas Woolf (British Association for Rheumatology and Rehabilitation) and Mrs Woolf, Mr Norman Smith (British Rheumatism and Arthritis Association), Mr George Wilson (Central Council for the Disabled), Sir Francis Portal (Clothworkers' Company), Sir Patrick and Lady Hamilton (Disabled Living Foundation), Mr Douglas King, Mr F. Cotton (Friends Provident Life Office), Miss P. Walker (Mount Vernon Hospital), Mr F. Garner, Mr R. Younger (Pearl Assurance Company), Miss Honoria Harford (Prospect Hall), Dr E. Coomes, Dr H. Goodman (St Stephen's Hospital).

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon, Lord and Lady Clwyd, Lord and Lady Segal, Lady Strabolgi, Mrs P. G. E. Allsop, Mr P. T. P. Allsop, Lady Atkins, Sir John Aubrey-Fletcher, Major and Mrs Henry Aylmer, Dr and Mrs H. F. Brewer, Mrs H. Burrows, Mr Ronald Clarke, Mr and Mrs J. B. M. Coates, Lady Compton, Mrs W. Cooper, Dr T. V. L. Crichlow, Sir Paul Davie, Dr Henry Dicks, Dr Robert Dickson, Dr and Mrs Paul Dykes, Mrs D. Eastman, Mr Leonard Falk, Sir William and Lady FitzGerald, Mrs T. Garden, Lady Holland, Sir Thomas Holmes Sellors, Miss M. Hudson, Mr and Mrs H. Isbicki, Dr April Kay, Mr and Mrs T. H. Llewellyn, Dame Katherine Macmillan, Mr Russell Manoy, Mrs H. Marsden-Smedley, Mr and Mrs Jack Muir, Lady Nicholson, Dr Edward Orton, Mr and Mrs Leonard Proutan, Mr and Mrs J. Sargeant, Mrs Graham Sharpe, Dr Maurice Shaw, Professor and Mrs Keith Simpson, Miss M. Smith, Mr A. J. Steeds, Mr G. Stone, Mr F. Ullman, Miss J. Vincent, Mr Walpole, Lady Welby, and Mr Walter Woodford.

Today's engagements

Exhibition: Turner Watercolours, British Museum, 10-5.
British Library exhibition, Jane Austen, Reference Division, Great Russell Street, 10-5.
Christmas exhibition of contemporary jewelry, Electrum Gallery, 21 South Molton Street, Westminster, 10-6.
RAF Museum, Aerodrome Road, Hendon, 10-6.
Department of Employment choir sing carols, St James's Church, Piccadilly, 1.15.
The Queen's Life Guard mounting ceremony, Horse Guards, *Whitehall*, 11.

Letters and ephemera of Browning fetch £6,380

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A group of Browning's letters, manuscript poems and ephemera, including photographs and a portrait drawing, was sold at Christie's yesterday for £6,380 with premium (estimate £2,500 to £3,000) to Maggs.

The 57 letters, largely unpublished, were written between 1881 and 1889 to Mrs Katherine de Kay Bronson and her daughter, Edith, with whom Browning used to stay in Venice. The manuscript poems include two sonnets, "*Helen's Tower*" and "*Sighed* Rawdon Brown".

The sale contained a series of 490 letters from Norman Douglas to Professor John Mavrogordato. They went for £2,970 (estimate £1,000 to £2,000) to Winifred Myers. Two first editions of T. E. Lawrence's *Seven Pillars of Wisdom* fetched rather less than expected, but a group of 12 letters from Lawrence to Manning Pike, the printer of the 1926 edition, fetched £1,320 (estimate £500 to £800).

A group of 15 highly personal letters from E. M. Forster to Florence Barger, with two autograph poems, made £660 (estimate £1,000 to £1,100) while an unpublished correspondence between George Bernard Shaw and Lady Gregory were sold for £1,045 (*estimate £800 to £1,000*).

The sale totalled £28,100, with 4 per cent unsold. A routine sale of English and Continental furniture went well, totalling £40,587, with 5 per cent unsold.

Sotheby's Belgravia held an entire sale devoted to Minton ceramics; it made £40,220 with *only four lots, or less than 1 per* cent. unsold. The bulk was made up of duplicates from the Minton factory which hopes to use the proceeds to fund a museum covering its production; they raised some £30,000.



The Minton vases sold for £3,630 at Sotheby's, Belgravia.

The pâte-sur-pâte pieces brought *the highest prices. A fine pair* of vases by Marc Louis Solon of 1872 with a maiden embracing Cupid and various putti, made £3,630 (estimate £3,000 to £5,000) and a pair of vases by the same artist with decoration allegorizing Night and Day made £2,750 (estimate £2,500 to £5,000).

The *biggest surprise* came among Minton's copies of Sèvres porcelain; a pair of *bleu-de-roi* ground pots-pourris and covers made £1,375 (estimate £600 to £1,000).

In Bond Street Sotheby's were selling contemporary prints with remarkable success in view of the difficulties of the modern art market. The sale *totalled* £26,720, with 8 per cent unsold.

The Hockney prints went better than ever, with 12 etched illustrations to *Fourteen Poems* by C. P. Cavafy at £990 (estimate £400 to £600) and "Rue de Seine", an etching and aquatint of 1972, at *£528 (estimate £200 to £300).*

A Sotheby sale of English silver made £36,845, with 7 per cent unsold. Things had not gone quite so well at a Sotheby silver sale in Florence on Wednesday, which made £27,519. The two most important lots, valued at about £10,000, had failed to sell.

A sale of English and Continental furniture at Bonham's yesterday made £14,716 with an Italian seventeenth-century walnut cassone at £1,375 (estimate £400 to £600). £16,572 toys: Toy soldiers, model railways and cars realized £16,572 at Phillips's. A collector's 6ft model of the Great Northern Locomotive Scorpion was sold for £1,500 to Kenyon.

University news

Oxford
The following awards have been made:

HERTFORD COLLEGE: Harold Macmillan (Sussex) Prizes: Miss K. Beeson, Chichester HS: Miss C. Brewer, Lewes Priory; Miss E. Fisher, Varndean S; Miss J. Murray, Chichester HS; A. Vasquez, Worths; C. Zinn.

SOMERVILLE COLLEGE: Scholarships: A. J. Butler, Woking Co GS college, modern history; E. J. Holt, Woking Co GS, Bull, English: C. J. Nowak, Bedales, Bailby, biological sciences: *H. E. Rock*, K Edward VI *HS*, Birmingham, Ewart, English: J. A. Stoddard, Wycombe Abbey, Coombs, English; J. R. Turner, Guildford Co S, Murray, classics: J. S. Warner, Malvern C. Seymour, classics: J. M. Wilson, Westgate S, Winchester and P Symonds's C. Nuffield, physiological sciences.

Exhibitions: A. H. Britton, Queen Anne GS, York, Bailby, modern history: S. J. Davenport, Kidbrooke S, Coombs, modern languages: L. M. Hulson, St Hilary's S, Edinburgh, and Tormead S, college, English: S. J. Livingstone, Altrincham GS, Bailby, physics: A. C. Ostler, Prendergast GS, *Catford, Coombs, English*: S. J. Slade, Westgate S, and Maynard S, Coombs, modern languages.

The following elections have been made:

WORCESTER COLLEGE: Classics: Open scholarships: M. A. Hatfull, Dulwich C; P. Morton, St Francis Xavier's C; F. M. Engleheart, Shrewsbury S; K. M. Buckley, Birkenhead S (theology). Open exhibition: C. P. Wood, Merchant Taylors' S.

History: Open scholarships: D. J. Hornby, Winchester C; C. F. Stoakes, Charterhouse (law). Landon scholarships: J. R. Q. Folliott Vaughan, Eton C; C. H. Williams, Eton C. Open exhibitions: S. J. Hay, Ampleforth C; A. R. Morris, Winchester C; A. M. D. Braddell, Lord Williams's S. (theology).

Modern studies: Open Simmons Scholarship: N. B. Loskin, City of London S (law). *Open exhibitions:* J. A. Alexander, Canford S (philosophy and modern languages); S. J. Royale, Stoke-on-Trent VI Form C (PPE); J. Westwell, Bury GS (PPE).

Modern languages: Open exhibition: S. W. Halls, Harrogate GS.

English: Open exhibition: P. J. Davey, St Edward's S.

Mathematics: Open scholarship: H. R. P. Ellingworth, Radley C. Open exhibition: P. J. Carlile, Huddersfield New C.

Natural science: Open scholarships: D. J. S. Green, Beechen Cliff S (physics); N. K. Kitson, Huddersfield New C (physics); R. R. A. Syms, Wellington C (engineering science); L. M. Todd, Eton (chemistry). Open exhibitions: M. A. Cotton, King's S, *Chester (engineering science); C. T. C.* Marks, K Edward's S, Birmingham (medicine); N. C. Rose, Bablake S (chemistry); J. Tanner, Ravensbourne S (physics).

Music: Open scholarship: S. J. Morecroft, Wellington C. Open instrumental scholarship: K. P. Widgery, Langley Park S.

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr Roy Hattersley, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, was host yesterday at 1 Carlton Gardens at a luncheon in honour of Herr Georg Kahn-Ackermann, Secretary-General of the Council of Europe. Among those also present were:

The Countess of Dartmouth, Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Lord Pargiter, Mr J. Grimond, MP, Sir John Rodgers, MP, Mr Raymond Fletcher, MP, Mr John Hunt, MP, Mr David Steel, MP, Mr Thomas Urwin, MP, Mr Stanley Hunt, Herr Etienne Reuter, Mr Ernest Wistrich, Mr G. Templeman, Mr Martin Emmals, Mrs Janet Hunt, Mr A. M. Rendel, Mr P. M. Foster, Sir Vincent Evans, Mr A. D. S. Goodall, Mr R. Swann and Mr C. V. Anson.

HM Government
Mr William Rodgers, Minister of State for Defence, was host yesterday at a luncheon given by her Majesty's Government at the Hyde Park Hotel in honour of Prince Turki bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud, Minister of Defence and Civil Aviation, Saudi Arabia.

HM Government
Mr Edward Rowlands, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, was host yesterday at Admiralty House at a luncheon in honour of the Premier of Antigua, Mr George Walter. Among those also present were:

Sir Lionel Luckhoo, Mr Gerald Watt, Mr Donald Halstead, Mr Eric Challenger, Dr Claudius Thomas, Mr John Grant, MP, Mr Arthur Blenkinsop, MP, Mr David Lane, MP, Mr F. A. Lilly, Mr E. N. Larmour, Mrs M. S. Chitty and Mr J. R. Young.

British Insurance Association
The chairman, Mr E. F. Bigland and members of the British Insurance Association entertained at luncheon at Aldermary House, Queen Street, yesterday Mr Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade.

Royal Institute of International Affairs
Mr Andrew Shonfield was host at a luncheon held yesterday at the Royal Institute of International Affairs at which the guest of honour was the American Ambassador and Secretary of Commerce-designate.

Latest wills

Latest wills include (net, before duty paid; duty on some estates not disclosed):

Anderson, Mrs Jessie Anne, of Hove £159,254
Brabin, Sir Daniel James, of Hampstead, London, a judge of the Queen's Bench Division £51,002
Chambers, Mr Wilfred, of Bexhill £93,830
Dudley, Mr Arnold Tiffany, of Tunbridge Wells £105,535
Goldsmith, Mr Leslie Donald, of Itchenor £137,021
Hatton, Mr Hedley, of Poole £110,105
Kennedy, Mr Albert Vincent, of Petworth, engineer .. £103,466
Lanyon, Mr Albert John, of Truro, local government officer £105,697
Potter, Mrs Edith Emily, of Hove (duty paid, £58,350) .. £141,782
Rafer, Mr David, of Hendon, London (duty paid, £12,137) £103,803
Thorold, the Rev Wilfrid Lionel de Buckenbuld, of Liss £113,227
Williams, the Right Rev Anthony Lewis Elliott, of Woodstock, Bishop of Bermuda 1956-62 £42,021

Science report

Physics: Matter strange and charming

Strangeness and charm are elusive qualities in any context, but particle physicists are gradually becoming convinced that they are the properties that are giving rise to the otherwise inexplicable new subatomic particles that recent experiments have revealed.

In particular, the psi particle, discovered last November at the Stanford accelerator laboratory, seems to demand explanation in terms of the controversial property of charm. The latest results, from a team of physicists at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (FNAL) near Chicago, help to reinforce the theory that the new particle was the product of a charmed quark. Although the theory that quarks are the fundamental constituents of all matter has no serious competitors, there was until recently no evidence that any of the quarks possessed charm. Now it is beginning to seem that they must.

No one has seen a quark of any kind and the evidence remains indirect. All that the FNAL team has actually seen is an extra muon (a kind of heavy electron) in a reaction that would normally be expected to produce only one. The reaction is one in which a beam *of neutral particles (neutrinos) is* fired at a metal target, causing the nuclei of the metal to disintegrate. According to what physicists know of the rules governing such reactions, a pair of muons of the kind seen at FNAL would be the expected result of the decay of a charmed particle.

Charm and strangeness are both properties that "protect" particles from disintegrating under what is known as the strong force. That force binds nuclear particles together and conversely causes the decay of sub-nuclear particles which are too heavy to be stable. The decay of sub-nuclear particles under the strong force takes about *as long as it* takes light to cross a nucleus.

Strangeness was first suggested in 1952 by Pais, to explain why certain particles took 10 million million times longer to decay than they should under the strong force. His idea was that those particles possessed a new property, which he called *strangeness, which could* not be changed by the strong force. The decay of strange particles into ordinary ones therefore had to be brought about by another force, the weak force, which does not respect the rules followed by the strong force.

Physicists can tell when the *weak force has brought about the* decay of a strange particle, by the long life of the decaying particle or by the production of leptons—electrons, muons or neutrinos—which normally respond to the weak force. According to the rules governing the new property of strangeness, the strong force can produce leptons, but only in pairs of opposite strangeness. ...Before the pairs could decay, however, they had to lose their strangeness and that could happen only under the weak force.

According to the quark theory one of the quarks that are the fundamental building blocks of matter must be a strange quark. Charm, unlike strangeness, was proposed on purely theoretical grounds, to bring as many forces and particles as possible under the *same theoretical umbrella. To* achieve that, theorists suggested a fourth quark, with a new quality somewhat like strangeness. They named it charm.

Many physicists refused to take charm seriously, however, until the discovery in 1972 of so-called "neutral currents" which fitted the general picture that charm had been invented to complete. The discovery last November of the excessively long-lived psi particle helped to support the charm theory *still further. The theory had predicted* that such particles, composed of a charm anticharm pair of quarks would be found.

The FNAL results fit in because they show the weak force acting in an unexplained way. According to such analysis as has been possible so far, the energies of the *muon pair inexplicably* produced in the reaction that the FNAL team has seen are consistent with the involvement of charm. The hypothesis is not yet proved beyond doubt. The difficulty is to detect enough of those rare events to make the delicate calculations that would be needed. Physicists have yet to show conclusively that particles can be produced in pairs by the strong force, and then decay under the weak force, as in the case of *strangeness*.

By Nature-Times News Service.
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OBITUARY

SIR STANLEY MORTON

Chairman of Abbey National

Sir Stanley Morton, Chairman and Managing Director of the Abbey National Building Society, died yesterday at the age of 64.

Born in 1911, Stanley William Gibson Morton joined the *National (later to become the* Abbey National) Building Society in 1927 and became its Establishment Officer in 1945. He became Joint General Manager in 1958 and General Manager in 1962. Thereafter he progressed to Chief General Manager in 1964, Director in 1965 and became Managing Director in 1968. He became *Deputy Chairman in 1969 and* Chairman in 1971.

From 1971 to 1973 he was Chairman of the Building Societies Association. He was also on the Council of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries and Administrators as well as being a member of the Council of the International Union of Building Societies and Savings Associations, of whose Development Committee he was the chairman. He was a director of several other companies.

Sir Stanley's term of office at the Building Societies Association coincided with a major change in the relationship between societies and government. The Government intervention with a £30m subsidy in April, 1973, to prevent *an increase* in the mortgage interest rate was fiercely criticized by him and in the event the mortgage interest perforce rose to 11 per cent before the end of the year.

From then onwards there has been a continuous dialogue between the societies and government as each has striven to understand the position of the other better. Although his two-year chairmanship of the association ceased in May, 1975 Sir Stanley was an active participant *in the regular* government discussions where his wide ranging interests—unlike that of many other building society leaders who have tended to be more inward-looking—were particularly welcome; as was his highly respected intuitive judgment of what was "right" for the building society movement.

He was knighted in 1973.

MR RICHARD HARTLEY

A correspondent writes:

Mr Richard Hartley, *MRCVS*, who died on December 11, aged 59, qualified from the Royal Veterinary College in 1940. After a short period in general practice he was commissioned in the Royal Army Veterinary Corps and saw service in Italy and the Middle East. After the war he founded a highly successful practice in Petersfield, Hampshire, in which he continued to play an active part until his death.

He built an international reputation as a skilled equine clinician. His reputation was based on his considerable veterinary expertise, especially in surgery, and on the intimate knowledge he gained as an owner and rider of show-jumpers and polo ponies. His interest in show-jumping was rewarded when Tuffet, a horse he bred, proved an outstanding success, ridden by Lionel Dunning. In 1972 he was official veterinary surgeon to the Spanish show-jumping team at *the Munich Olympics; and he* was to have filled a comparable position for the British team at next year's Olympic Games.

Richard embodied most, if not all, of the qualities necessary for the complete professional man; integrity, devotion to the duties demanded by his calling, patience and a sense of humour. He also possessed a courage which sustained him through his year as President of the British Equine Veterinary Association. It was typical of his fortitude that, despite ill-health, he completed his tenure of office, handing over to his successor only on the day before he died. In that day, during which he chaired a scientific meeting and presided over the AGM, he displayed the usual courtesy, good humour and generosity of nature for which he was renowned. He will be sorely missed by his profession and by a large circle of friends. He leaves his wife, Anne, a daughter and two sons.

DR JOSEPH SUSCHITZKY

Dr Joseph Suschitzky died in London on December 14, at the age of 73.

Born *in Vienna in 1902 he* came to this country in 1939 after a year in the concentration camps at Dachau and Buchenwald. Before Hitler's invasion in 1938 he had managed his family's bookshop in Vienna, and he established himself *again in London as an antiquarian* and rare book dealer after a spell as Head of the Rare Book Department at Foyles. His Firm "*Libris*" began at No. 50 Harben Road, NW6, and later was at 38a Boundary Road, NW8, until 1971, when he sold *his entire stock to a Canadian* university, and carried on business on a smaller scale from his home.

He took pride in recalling that his business started on a grand scale with a complete library of the Kelmscott-, *Doves-, Eragny- and Golden* Cockerel Presses which was given to him for sale by its owner. His actual specialities, *however, were German rare and* antiquarian books and he was able to offer many titles which were unobtainable even in German *speaking countries. He* used to advertise "German Books in Seven Rooms", and the house in Boundary Road, where amongst many rare titles a big cat would greet the customer, will always be remembered amongst book lovers and amateurs of German and *Austrian literature. Many great* libraries in this field went through his hands, e.g. the library of the famous critic *Friedrich Gundolf (a member* of Stefan George's circle), of Sir Alexander Korda and the writer Mechtilde Lichnowsky, *to name but a few. Saturday* mornings at 38a Boundary Road will never be forgotten by anybody who was present; it some*times seemed that everybody* with a lively interest in German literature could be found there browsing.

Doctor Suschitzky was a man of great personal charm and extreme modesty. He used to remind his friends how grateful *he was to fate, after entering* this country as a penniless refugee, to be able to carry on his profession which he loved *so much and to be able to* become an important member of the London cosmopolitan literary scene.

He was *not* married and leaves a brother and two sisters.

SAREM-UL-DOWLEH

Prince Akbar Massoud, Sarem-ul-Dowleh, who died at the age of 90 at his home in Isfahan on November 29, was a grandson of Nasr-ed-Din Shah and eldest son of Zil-ul-Sultan the one-time all-powerful Prince-Governor of Isfahan and Fars who, had his mother not been a commoner, would have succeeded Nasr-ed-Din as Shah of Persia.

Like his father Sarem-ul-Dowleh was always a close friend of the British: and both suffered because of this. Sarem-ul-Dowleh was Minister of Commerce in 1915, Minister for Foreign Affairs in 1916 and Minister of Finance in 1919 when he was one of the triumvirate of Persian Ministers who backed Lord Curzon's ill-fated Anglo-Persian Treaty. All three incurred much public odium as a result, it being alleged that their support had been bought by the British with advance payments from a loan which was part of the Treaty.

After the fall of the Qajar dynasty Sarem-ul-Dowleh never returned to ministerial office though he was given various provincial governorships: he fell from grace in 1929 and was kept a *virtual prisoner in* Tehran until 1932 when he was allowed to return to his vast estates in and around Isfahan *where he lived quietly there*after. He was a regular visitor to London until quite recently and enjoyed entertaining his English *friends at his lovely old* house in Isfahan. He strongly championed members of the Church Missionary Society *when they and their hospital* in Isfahan came under attack from Dr Mussadeq during the early 1950s.

The Rev Canon William Nevill Gordon Boxer, who died on December 11 at the age of 86, was Canon (1955) and Chancellor of St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, 1956-61. From 1962 he was an honorary Canon. He was editor of the *Scottish Episcopal Church Year Book 1945-70.*

Miss Marguerite Frances Hanmer, High Sheriff of Montgomeryshire in 1946, died on December 16. She was the second daughter of Sir Wyndham Hanmer, sixth baronet.

Lady Silkin, widow of Lord Silkin, died on December 15. She married her husband in 1964 as his third wife.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr J. P. I. Hennessy, Acting High Commissioner at Kampala, to be British High Commissioner to the Republic of Uganda.

Mr I. M. Sinclair, Second Legal Adviser, to be Legal Adviser to the Foreign and *Commonwealth* Office in succession to Sir Vincent Evans, QC, who retires on December 31. Mr J. R. Freeland, a *legal counsellor*, to be Second Legal Adviser.

Lord Edmund-Davies to be chairman of the Policy Advisory Committee on Sexual Offences, which will study the age of consent in relation to sexual offences. The following to be members:

The Rev Dr A. Bird, Principal of Queen's College, Birmingham, and a GP; Mrs P. Crabbe, secretary, London Brook Advisory Centres; Mrs S. Dineen, journalist; Professor T. C. N. Gibbens, London Univ Inst of Psychiatry; *Mr J. Hazan*, QC, and recorder of Crown Court; Miss M. McIntosh, lecturer in sociology, Essex Univ; Lord Justice James; Sir Kenneth Jones, legal adviser to Home Office; Mrs C. Lodge, principal social worker, Leeds; Miss J. Moss, *superintendent*, Metropolitan Police; Lady Serota, Minister of State (Health), 1969-70, and chairman of Commission for Local Administration; Professor J. C. Smith, professor of law, Nottingham Univ; Mrs D. Stone, magistrate and barrister; and Mrs S. Winfield, senior probation officer, co Durham.

Requiem Mass

Archbishop Mathew
Bishop Butler, Vicar Capitular of Westminster, was the principal celebrant at the requiem Mass for Archbishop David Mathew in Westminster Cathedral yesterday in the presence of the Apostolic Delegate. Other celebrants included the Bishop of Leeds, the Bishop of Brentwood, *the Bishop of Portsmouth*, the Bishop-in-Ordinary to the Forces, Bishop Mahon and Bishop Guazzelli. Those present included:

Mr Gervase Mathew (brother), *Mr Theo* Mathew, Mrs Michael Dawson, Mrs Robert Mathew, Sister Mary Philip, Mr Theobald Mathew, Mr and Mrs Thomas Mathew, Mr Charles Mathew, Mr Francis Mathew, the Earl and Countess *of Norbury*, Mr and Mrs P. Betts, Mr and Mrs William Hargraves, Mr and Mrs Robin Mathew, Mr and Mrs Charles Mathew, Mr David Mathew, Mr and Mrs T. Hope, Charles and Victoria Selmon.

The Duke and Duchess of Norfolk, the Marchioness of Lothian, the Countess of Longford, Lady Camoys, Lady Russell of Killowen, Lady Tessa Balfour, the Hon Georgina Stonor, the Hon Lady Stonor, Sir Harold and the Hon Lady Hood, Lady Lunn, Sir John Pope-Hennessy, Lieutenant-Colonel J. Ramsay-Fairfax, Mr Robert Speaight, Commander J. Carine, Mr Anthony D'Arcy, Air Commodore Philipps, Mrs Marshall, Miss T. A. Ponsonby, Mr Roland Hill, Miss T. Dillon, Miss U. Dillon, Mr and Mrs Harold Hope, Mrs A. Beyts, Mrs G. Cotterell, Mr and Mrs J. Cotterell, Father Geoffrey Preston (representing the Prior and committee of St Dominic's Priory, Newcastle upon Tyne), Mr J. P. Brooke-Little (British Association, Order of Malta), and Squadron Leader D. A. Young-James (vice-president United Services Catholic Association).

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

هكذا من الأصل

LAING
THE COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION SERVICE

...ish ...ision ...rings in inch and metric sizes

...lore cash help ...nd subsidies ...drive to boost ...K exports

...elyn Westlake

...t 24 hours after the ...sion of some import con... was disclosed yesterday ... British exporters are to ...re more cash help and ...dies in a series of measures ...ould also prove controver... with our trade partners.

... measures were ...nced in the House of ...ons by Mr Peter Shore, ...tary of State for Trade: ... include the provision of ...opment finance—money to ...facture goods to meet ...t orders—and improve... to the cost escalation ...me, under which the Gov... ...ent helps exporters meet ...ases in costs caused by ...ion.

... these, the cost escalation ...me could prove the most ...ntious. It is no secret that ...d States officials were un... ...y with the scheme when it ...irst introduced earlier this ...

The timing of the latest ...ures was particularly un... ...nate.

... the very moment that Mr ... was making his announce..., senior officials from the European Community ...s were meeting to discuss, ...g other subjects, how to ...in the international trade ...t race, or "disarmament" ... is sometimes called.

...though these talks centre ...miting the length of trade ...its and restricting cut... ... interest rates, other subs... ...s like those embodied in ...escalation schemes are also ...y to come under the micro... ...

...r more than two years ...tiations between the EEC, ...n and America to reach a ...ntlemen's agreement" on ...rt credit have been stalled ... dissension between the ...ch and the Americans.

... Shore's announcement ...erday had been hinted at by ...Denis Healey on Wednes... when imposing the import ...rols and relaxing hire pur... ...e controls. Four specific ...sures were unveiled by the ...etary for Trade.

...e first was a scheme to help members of a consortium when a partner in a joint overseas project cannot meet his share of the order.

When this happens, the full burden often falls on the remaining members of the consortium. Now they can insure against this through the government-run Exports Credits Guarantee Department which insures about 35 per cent of Britain's exports against non-payment.

Secondly, exporters insured under the ECGD comprehensive guarantee will be able to sell double the amount to overseas buyers than hitherto without referring to the ECGD.

Thirdly, Mr Shore stated that the pre-shipment facility, first announced in August, was now generally available.

For some months the ECGD has been negotiating with the clearing banks over the way this scheme would work. The banks will now provide extra funds for overseas capital projects where money for production was not available in the normal way.

Such finance will be provided at a commercial rate so there is no subsidy involved. But as the exporters are covered by an ECGD guarantee, this means that banks are getting a full return on risk-free business.

The fourth measure, improvements in the cost escalation scheme, was made in response to several pleas from industry. In future, the scheme will be more flexible, with the Government prepared to contribute towards exporters' increased costs at a lower inflation "threshold" than previously. This facility is only available on capital exports of more than £2m.

Last night the Confederation of British Industry welcomed the measures. Mr Shore's announcement coincided with the publication of the ECGD's annual results which have been assembled on a new accounting basis. Instead of being on a cash-flow basis, premium income is now related to the cost of claims.

...utch likely to challenge ...MF gold sales proposal

...m David Blake
...is, Dec 18

...st when everybody thought ...had been settled, the pro... ...ed package of measures to ...orm the world monetary sys... ...is being brought into ques... ...by the Netherlands.

...he Dutch have indicated to ...ir partners in the Group of ... that they are deeply ...appy with the proposal to ...l off part of the International ...netary Fund's stock of gold ...d use the proceeds to help ...eloping countries.

...They will have a chance to ...ll out their position here ...morrow at a meeting of the ...up of Ten in full ministerial ...sion.

...Dutch objections, if they are ...ced—as a number of other ...untries expect them to be—...uld mean a lively debate as the 10 ministers try to tie up loose ends in the monetary reform scheme ready for agreement by the IMF interim committee in Kingston, Jamaica, in January.

The Dutch are believed to have been encouraged in their objection by the view of the fund's director, Mr Johannes Witteveen, who thinks it illegal for the IMF to sell off its gold. He is thought to be opposed to the scheme, which also involves central banks being allowed to buy gold from the fund.

They share Mr Witteveen's doubt about the legality of the exercise and are deeply offended at the way in which the scheme was put together as part of a package agreement at the Rambouillet economic summit in November, to which the Dutch were not invited.

...ritish Steel set ...o acquire ...erman stockist

Peter Hill

British Steel Corporation is ...ised to make its first acquisi... ...n in the European steel stock...lding industry. Negotiations ...ve reached an advanced stage ...th a West German stockholder and the deal is awaiting ...proval from the EEC.

...It has always been the policy ... the BSC to expand its stock...lding activities into the Com...unity and beyond, although ...is extension of its activities ...rries private sector stock...olders.

Sir Monty Finniston, chairman of BSC, recently indicated ...at an announcement was ...minent, and he also stated ...at the corporation was looking ...refully at possibilities for ex...ansion in the United States.

Llanwern peace formula is drawn up

By Tim Jones
Labour Staff

Details are expected to be announced in London next week of an agreement which will enable the giant blastfurnace at Llanwern to be commissioned by the end of January or early February.

Settlement of the long-standing pay dispute between the British Steel Corporation and the National Union of Blastfurnacemen will mean that the £27m blastfurnace, which has been lying idle for more than a year, can at last begin producing an estimated 5,000 tonnes of iron a day.

After protracted talks, the union's executive is understood to be willing to recommend to the South Wales workers a formula for acceptance.

CAFFYNS Ltd

	Half-year to 30.9.75	Half-year to 30.9.74	Year to 31.3.75
	£	£	£
TURNOVER	12,886,577	10,299,967	21,474,612
Trading Profit	653,521	462,551	994,942
Less: Depreciation, Interest and contributions to Staff Pension Fund	166,322	128,039	269,465
Profit before Tax	487,199	334,512	725,477
Corporation Tax (52%)	255,500	173,000	385,156
Profit after Tax	231,699	161,512	340,321

This excellent result needs to be qualified. We have had the assistance of British Leyland incentive schemes and have been trading in a period when depreciation of used cars and hire cars was exceptionally low.

A revaluation of our properties has been carried out by Messrs. Herring Daw and discloses a surplus of £1.71m over the Balance Sheet value.

The Directors have declared an increased interim dividend of 1.7p actual per ordinary share (1974 1.4p) amounting to £55,080 which will reduce the disparity between the interim and final dividends. It will be paid on 22nd January, 1976.

Lowson debts of £234,300 revealed

By Margaret Walters

A second and final report on the business empire of Sir Denys Lowson, the City financier and former Lord Mayor of London, who died earlier this year just three hours after summonses were issued against him for conspiracy to defraud, was delivered yesterday by the Department of Trade.

It claims that Sir Denys owes a number of his companies a total of £234,300. It examines the sale of shares in two companies, South Winnipeg and Angus Milling, by Australian Estates, formerly a major Lowson company, to beneficial interests of his family in a manner that concealed the full details of the transaction from the Australian Estates board.

The first report, undertaken by Mr David Hurst, QC, and Mr Richard Langdon, a City accountant, accused Sir Denys of "grave mismanagement" and a breach of fiduciary duty over the purchase and subsequent resale for a profit of £5m of the National Group of Unit Trusts.

This report led directly to the summonses in September this year. But the latest one, while criticizing Sir Denys for regarding his companies as his own property and failing to treat each one as a commercially independent entity, points out that the motive in the share transactions was not premeditated immediate gain on the scale of the National Group of Unit Trusts deal.

It criticized the extensive use of nominees made by Sir Denys, and occasional stock market deals carried out between his companies which "prevented any interested person outside the group discovering that the dominant Lowson Group position precluded the existence of a market".

This "manipulation" was, in the opinion of the inspectors "quite deliberate". The transactions in South Winnipeg and Angus Milling shares were queried by Mr C. Mills, a director of Australian Estates, after disclosure in the press of the National Group of Unit Trusts affair.

Accountants Touche Ross were called in to give an assessment in June, 1973, but found Sir Denys, in the words of the inspectors "furtive".

During September and November, 1972 Sir Denys organized the sale, by Australian Estates of its 186,570 shares in South Winnipeg at around Can$0.90 per share and 285,526 shares in Angus Milling at around 5p to 6p a share.

In the case of South Winnipeg a host of other publicly quoted Lowson companies likewise sold their holdings in the group, amounting in total of 57 per cent of the share capital. These shares passed to two trusts set up in Canada for the benefit of Lowson family members.

At the board meeting where Australian Estates approved the transactions "on the nod" Sir Denys did not disclose his family interest in the purchase, his method of establishing the price or, in the case of South Winnipeg, that group companies were collectively selling control. Although the tiny market in the shares hampered any decision the inspectors concluded that Sir Denys fixed the Can$0.90 price before taking any professional advice.

He "fully appreciated the significance of control and the need to reflect it in arriving at an appropriate price. This he did not do". The inspectors state that Australian Estates lost £56,400 on the deals, while other group companies lost £177,900.

In the case of Angus Milling, Sir Denys was well aware of the group's improving prospects and knew that the price of 5p was too low. Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, was called by the board to give an assessment in early 1974 and fixed a price of 26½p per share. Sir Denys paid Australian Estates the £40,000 difference between his and Kleinwort's figure.

But the inspectors state that these transactions, unlike the National Group of Unit Trusts sale, were not done for "any substantial immediate realizable capital gain"

Congress backs Ford veto on Bill to extend tax cuts

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Dec 18

Taxes for all Americans will almost certainly rise on January 1. The House of Representatives today upheld President Ford's veto of a Bill which would have extended for six months the one-year 1975 tax cuts.

The only chances now to avoid tax increases are for the Congress either to pass legislation linking tax reductions to government spending cuts for the fiscal year starting next October, as President Ford has requested, or for the Congress to pass a Bill next month to cut taxes, made retroactive to January 1.

Congress goes into recess tomorrow night and the chances are widely seen as minimal for it to pass legislation before then along the lines desired by Mr Ford.

The Democratic Party leaders in the Congress are confident that they can get strong support for a retroactive tax-cutting Bill in January.

Chrysler confronts workforce today

By R. W. Shakespeare

Chrysler's top management men in Britain are seeing union officials and shopfloor representatives from all of the American-owned company's United Kingdom plants in Coventry today.

They will meet against a background of mounting opposition by the workers to the massive redundancies contained in the Government's £162m rescue operation.

It will clearly be an abrasive gathering because the management goes into the talks with no scope for negotiation on the 8,000 cut backs in its present labour force of some 25,000.

Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, asked Mr Riccardo, head of the Chrysler car group, to attend the talks. But a Chrysler spokesman said yesterday: "Mr Riccardo will be giving a press conference in Detroit. It was very short notice."

The word from Chrysler's Coventry headquarters yesterday was that the Government's financial aid was strictly conditional on cuts in the workforce.

Mr Don Lander, Chrysler's Canadian-born chief executive in Britain, said yesterday: "The task that lies ahead is challenging, and regrettably it does involve redundancies. But with hard work, cooperation and understanding between employees and management we can look forward to the future with confidence."

However, the "hard line" that will be taken, particularly by the contingents of shop stewards from the various plants, emerged very clearly yesterday.

A mass meeting of some 3,500 workers from Chrysler's Linwood plant in Renfrewshire voted overwhelmingly to reject redundancy in principle, although the meeting agreed to continue talks with the management.

About 90 per cent of the Linwood workers finished work last night for an extended Christmas and new year break, with no date fixed for a return to work. Yesterday's meeting agreed that they would, in any event, all report for work at Linwood on January 5. There was some suggestion that this could amount to a shopfloor takeover of the plant.

It also became clear yesterday that Chrysler workers in Coventry were likely to adopt the same attitude towards redundancies.

Yesterday Mr Pat Fox, Transport and General Workers' Union convener at the Ryton car assembly plant in Coventry, said: "We will be pressing for some form of work-sharing. With two out of three workers at Ryton facing redundancy this is not a deal we can accept."

At today's meeting in Coventry the management men will be putting to the union shop floor representatives a detailed company view of the Government proposals.

The main five points of the planned Chrysler operations in Britain appear to be:

1.—A new and improved version of the Avenger car to be built at the Scottish plant (the Avenger is at present assembled at Ryton).

2.—The Alpine car to be brought into this country in knockdown form and assembled at Ryton from next year.

3.—A new, small conventional drive car to be built at Linwood, starting in 1977.

4.—A new van/truck to be introduced in 1978 and presumably built at Dunstable.

5.—A new light car for launch in 1979 with the assembly centre so far unspecified.

Our Political Staff write: Mrs Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, said in an ITV interview yesterday on the Chrysler situation: "In the end jobs are not jobs unless they are producing products which other people want to buy with their pay packets, and it is absurd to say they are."

MEPC has turnround of £17.78m

By Adrienne Gleeson

Relief greeted yesterday's end-year statement from Britain's second largest property company, MEPC.

Although the figures showed a £17.78m turnround to a loss of £3.65m before tax, further heavy write-downs on investment properties, and no dividend, the shares gained 8p to 77p.

The group hit big problems with its residential property developments in the United Kingdom when the more expensiev end of the market went dead on the restriction of taxation relief on interest to mortgages of under £25,000, and on the reduction in the availability of large mortgages.

The two subsidiaries handling this end of the market in consequence made trading losses of £5.06m, and the group has also made an extraordinary provision of £5.4m below the line against the expected cost of closing down one of them.

There have also been troubles abroad. The Netherlands and Belgium turned in a loss of £3.37m before tax, against a profit of £191,000 last time.

This relates to the loss, £1.7m at the trading level, incurred on the disappointing Manhattan Center development in Brussels, which is still only 27 per cent let overall.

In addition, the group has had to provide £1.6m against the bad debts arising on the financial failure of the guarantor of the unler part of the building.

Revaluation of two-thirds of the group's investment property portfolio has thrown up a surplus of £7.2m, which has been taken into the accounts; but on sample evidence the directors have decided to write down the balance by £45m.

Properties in course of development have been taken in at £72m, but the directors consider their present estimated value might be 10 to 20 per cent lower. They are unable to place a reliable valuation on properties held for development, which are in the books at £77m.

Financial Editor, page 19

Japan car exporters open talks in London

By Edward Townsend

Leaders of Japan's motor industry, who yesterday began two days of talks in London with their British counterparts, reiterated their opposition to any form of self-imposed restraint on car exports to the United Kingdom.

Both sides were playing down suggestions that the sensitive issue of booming Japanese car sales in Britain was to be high on the list of topics under discussion. The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said simply that the meeting was to allow industry representatives to "exchange views on subjects of mutual interest".

The SMMT and the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers Association have taken the attitude that car trade between the two countries is a matter properly dealt with by their respective governments.

But there is little doubt that the issue will be raised, particularly in relation to the British industry's difficulty in selling cars to the Japanese.

The Japanese delegation is being led by Mr E. Toyoda, head of the Toyota company and the JAMA president. He is accompanied by Mr M. Okuma, chairman of JAMA's overseas trade committee, and Mr T. Nakamura, the association's managing director.

Leading the British team is Sir William Barry, chairman of Ford of Great Britain, and the SMMT president, with Mr John Beswick, the society's director, and Mr Hugh Cownie, its economic adviser.

Government officials are not directly involved in the talks but there is clearly a good deal of interest being shown by Whitehall

EEC fines United Brands for banana price abuses

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Dec 18

The European Commission today ordered America's United Brands, the world's leading dealer in bananas, to pay a fine of one million units of account (about £400,000) for abusing its dominant position on the markets of five EEC countries.

Speaking at a press conference in Brussels, Mr Albert Borschette, the EEC Commissioner responsible for competition, also released a long-awaited report absolving oil companies from any breach of Community competition rules during the five months following the four-fold oil price increase in October, 1973.

United Brands was held to have infringed EEC rules on four principal counts: imposing a ban on the resale of green bananas (the only kind suitable for export); refusing to supply a Danish distributor with Chiquita-brand bananas; pursuing discriminatory pricing policies; and making excessive profits.

Mr Borschette said that the difference in the prices charged by United Brands, also widely known under the trade name Fyffes, in Germany, Denmark and the Benelux countries, sometimes amounted to as much as 100 per cent. The Commission decided to order the company to reduce its prices in those countries to a level 15 per cent below those currently charged in Germany.

The American multinational will be given several months to obey this edict, but thereafter it could become subject to a fine of £400 for every day that passes without compliance. The company has the right of appeal to the European Court

According to the Commission, United Brands controls 40 per cent of the EEC's banana market.

In Rotterdam, United Brands International denied that it had a dominant market stake, and countered that it had made losses in several of the past five years in the EEC trading area, according to Reuter.

Leyland's fleet sales 'soar'

By Clifford Webb

Leyland Cars reported yesterday that their fleet sales are "soaring", and they confidently expect to increase their share of this key market sector by 10 per cent in 1976.

Much of this new business will be at the expense of Chrysler, who hold an estimated 22 per cent of the market and are more dependent on fleet and company sales than any of their competitors. Trade sources said last night that these account for over 60 per cent of Chrysler's United Kingdom sales.

Much of Chrysler's fleet business was won by discounting, but even this has failed to attract buyers since the company's cash crisis began. One of the biggest problems facing a financially rejuvenated Chrysler will be to restore buyers' confidence as well as to readjust prices to a more viable level.

Leyland Cars said that they had doubled fleet sales in October compared with a year ago. In particular the Princess was winning the middle management sector.

October fleet customers included the Metropolitan Police, Great Universal Stores, Godfrey Davis, Swan National, Heinz, Automobile Contracts and United Drapers.

R. W. Shakespeare writes: The 21 workers from British Leyland's Triumph car plant at Liverpool, who began a strike on Tuesday after complaining about the dirt and smell caused by stray cats, are to return to work today.

Their stoppage made 600 other men idle, and has cost the company production of 200 "export only" sports cars worth more than £3,000 each.

Initially, the men stopped work while cleaners were brought in. Then they held a meeting and voted to strike when the management said they would not be paid for the time spent at the meeting.

Yesterday they agreed to take the grievance through the company's disputes procedure. Production of the TR7 sports car had to stop because the plant ran out of components.

Four names mooted for post of SE chairman

By Our Financial Editor

There could be at least four candidates for the chairmanship of The Stock Exchange which will be decided by a ballot among the 45 Council members on January 6.

The vacancy—caused by the death last week of Mr Michael Marriott, who had been chairman only since June—means that by today each Council member can if he wishes submit to an election panel a list of up to four people who he thinks should be considered for the chairmanship.

This election panel—effectively three senior Council members, Mr John Powell, Mr Kenneth Crabbe and Mr Peter Wright, who have agreed to act as scrutineers since they do not want to be candidates—is then able to indicate to aspiring candidates whether they are likely to get reasonable support in the final ballot on January 6.

When Mr Marriott, at the age of only 45, was elected chairman earlier this year he defeated three other candidates. They were two of the three deputy-chairmen, Mr David LeRoy-Lewis and Mr James Dundas Hamilton, and a younger Council member, Mr Nicholas Goodison.

All three are likely to want to try again. But support is also thought to be growing for a fourth candidate, Mr Somerset Gibbs.

If the Council opts for the short tenure, it is almost certain to be a straight fight between the two senior deputy-chairmen, Mr Hamilton and Mr LeRoy-Lewis.

If not, then a younger man, such as Mr Goodison or Mr Gibbs, could be elected or, of course, someone who at the moment appears to be an outsider.

Dana bid for control of Brown Bros

By Desmond Quigley

An agreed partial bid by the American Dana Corporation for Brown Brothers Corporation, a distributor of motor components, which values the whole company at £10m, was announced yesterday.

Dana already holds 27.4 per cent of Brown and is offering 22p a share in cash for half of the remaining 33 million shares. If the bid is successful Dana will hold fractionally more than two thirds of the British company's equity. The shares rose 2p yesterday to their year's high of 18p. The year's low was 4p.

The Takeover Panel has given its approval to the partial bid under Rule 27. Partial offers are unusual, although the Panel of late has gradually relaxed its formerly severe attitude to such moves.

Another big Dana investment in Britain is a 35 per cent stake in Turner Manufacturing, a leading United Kingdom independent gearbox manufacturer. A spokesman for Dana said yesterday that it did not intend to alter this holding.

If the offer succeeds, a question mark may well hang over Brown's 25 per cent stake in Henlys, the car distributors, with whom relations have not been particularly good.

The offer is conditional on acceptance by holders of at least 50 per cent of the outstanding shares, but any shares sold will not rank for any final Brown dividend declared for the current financial year.

Godber appointment

Mr Joseph Godber, who was Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food until February last year, was named yesterday as chairman-designate of the Retail Consortium. In March, he will succeed Lord Redmayne, who will then be deputy chairman for 12 months.

Business Diary, page 19

Slater, Walker may close its provincial banks

By Our Financial Staff

Slater, Walker Securities is believed to have drawn up plans to close down its banking operations in the provinces in the new year.

The group has six regional banking offices within Slater, Walker Ltd, its investment banking arm. They are in Birmingham, Manchester, Bristol, Glasgow, Southampton and Aberdeen. The Aberdeen branch was opened only on September 1 this year, and it is not clear whether it will close

These were set up as part of a group regional development programme designed to expand Slater, Walker's predominantly London-based banking operations throughout key provincial centres. Two of the offices, Glasgow and Southampton, were opened during 1973.

SWS has also been represented in the provinces through offices of Slater, Walker Finance Corp, its insurance subsidiary and its hire-purchase subsidiary. Earlier this year however SWFC, which had 27 offices, was sold to First Fortune Holdings for £4.85m.

The group's five banking offices have provided a variety of financial services. As well as conventional banking facilities they give advice on corporate finance matters, insurance, investment management, taxation and property development.

Last night a Slater, Walker spokesman in London declined to comment on the proposed closures, which have been decided upon while the new board, headed by Mr Jimmy Goldsmith, is still engaged in a full review of the group's operations.

In August this year it was revealed that the group's banking and corporate finance profits had dropped from £5.1m to £2.75m in the first half of 1975.

Meanwhile, as talks continued in Singapore between Mr Goldsmith and the board of Haw Par on the question of Slater, Walker's £14m loan to Haw Par, the share listing of Helma Holding, one of Slater, Walker's associates, was suspended in Amsterdam.

Helma is a finance and property company incorporated in The Netherlands, of which Slater, Walker owns 49.5 per cent. It made a profit of £377,000 in 1974, compared with £263,000 the year before.

The suspension follows reports that Beleggingsmij de Wereldhaven, another Dutch concern, was planning to discuss a possible share exchange bid for Helma.

Until August this year Wereldhaven was an associate company of Argyle Securities, itself an associate of Mr Goldsmith's Anglo-Continental Group. In August, Argyle sold its stake to Dutch investors.

Reports from Singapore last night indicated that no solution had yet been reached on the question of the £14m Haw Par loan, and further talks are expected to take place today.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 153.39 +0.63
The FT index: 368.7 +0.4

Rises

BP	12p to 577p	Midland	10p to 295p
Brit Am Tob	5p to 327p	Rand Mine Prop	5p to 175p
Distillers	8p to 138p	Reed Int	5p to 247p
Eleco Hldgs	21p to 281p	Sunley B	10p to 140p
GKN	8p to 268p	Unilever	4p to 420p
IPH	3p to 18p	Uld Scientific	12p to 82p
MEPC	8p to 77p	Western Areas	12p to 295p

Falls

Bk of Ireland	10p to 350p	Muirhead	4p to 111p
Bk of NSW	20p to 650p	Pretoria P Cem	5p to 185p
Carr'ton Vly	2p to 29p	Pork Farms	5p to 111p
East Dagga	2p to 34p	Schroders	5p to 380p
James HC	5p to 164p	Steep Rock	8p to 98p
Latham J	5p to 140p	Town & Comm	1p to 10½p
Manbre & Gart	5p to 124p	Wearwell	3p to 31p

Equities ended narrowly mixed.

Gilt-edged securities remained firm.

Sterling was unchanged at $2.0220. The "effective devaluation" rate was 30.1 per cent.

Gold was 50 cents an ounce down at $138.75.

SDR-$ was 1.17164 on Thursday, while SDR-£ was 0.578731.

Commodities: Reuter's index was at 1171.4 (previous 1170.0).

Reports pages 20 and 22

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.67	1.61
Austria Sch	36.50	36.50
Belgium Fr	83.75	80.75
Canada $	2.09	2.04
Denmark Kr	12.75	12.35
Finland Mkk	8.05	7.80
France Fr	9.20	8.90
Germany DM	5.45	5.25
Greece Dr	79.00	74.00
Hongkong $	10.35	9.95
Italy Lr	1515.00	1460.00
Japan Yn	640.00	615.00
Netherlands Gld	5.55	5.35
Norway Kr	11.50	11.15
Portugal Esc	71.00	61.00
S Africa Rd	1.88	1.76
Spain Pes	123.75	118.25
Sweden Kr	9.10	8.80
Switzerland Fr	5.45	5.25
US $	2.06	2.01
Yugoslavia Dnr	40.50	37.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

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HERMAN SMITH LIMITED

The following is an extract from the circulated statement of the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Herman G. Smith:

The trading profit for the year ended 30th June, 1975 was £238,947, subject only to tax, which compares with £213,190 for the previous year. There is a surplus of £23,827 relating to extraordinary items. Turnover to outside customers increased by 45% but profits by only 12%. Rapid inflation caused substantial increases in costs and also the substantial costs incurred in introducing new items of merchandise.

HERMAN SMITH (AERO SERVICES) achieved satisfactory results and prospects remain good. We have continued to expand overseas and obtained, for the first time, a substantial contract for precision fabrications from within the Common Market.

HERMAN SMITH (MACHINING) has sustained its progress and demand for its capacity and facilities continues to be good.

HERMAN SMITH (ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS) was particularly affected by inflationary pressures on costs as a number of contracts on hand were from Government sources on a fixed price basis. It has been possible to adjust some selling prices, and current orders on hand remain good. I am hopeful, therefore, that the Company will make a more satisfactory contribution this year.

HERMAN SMITH (SPECIAL PRODUCTS) continues to trade satisfactorily.

HERMAN SMITH (PRESSWORK) achieved excellent results. Our policy has enabled us to maintain a high level of activity in difficult times.

GENERAL. In assessing prospects for the current year, a specific forecast is very difficult. We are fortunate that our forward order position is good and I feel confident that, provided inflation moderates, we may look forward to a further improvement in profit.

Copies of the Report can be obtained from the Secretary, Cinderbank Works, Dudley, West Midlands DY2 9AH.

Latest grant gives UK major share of EEC fund

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Britain has taken a major part of the aid available from the EEC Regional Development Fund this year. Total contributions from the fund have swelled to almost £36m as a result of a £27m tranche announced yesterday.

The latest sum will help towards the cost of 294 different projects in the United Kingdom. With the allocations in October contributions made by the fund to British projects amount to £35.9m, although the United Kingdom share for the year was set at £35m. The reason for the larger amount is that other EEC states have not been granted their full share.

Decisions by the Commission to make further contributions to Britain are expected early in 1976. Applications have already been submitted.

The fund is designed to provide financial assistance for industrial and infrastructure projects promoted or financed by public authorities and directly linked to industrial activities. The Department of the Environment said last night that, of the latest grant, some £6.2m was to support 84 infrastructure projects in England.

Under this year's allocations, the United Kingdom grant will be applied to 530 projects. The Department of Industry noted that in the second allocation the Commission had agreed that member states could draw up to 139.3m units of account (about £58m) from the fund in respect of 528 projects in less prosperous regions of the Community.

Future handouts for Rolls-Royce will be monitored by NEB

By Malcolm Brown

Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, said yesterday that the Government was awaiting the 1976 operating plan of Rolls-Royce (1971)—the state owned aero engine company—before deciding what funds the company should receive.

In a written parliamentary answer the Secretary of State also confirmed that the Government would shortly be transferring its 100 per cent shareholding in the company to the National Enterprise Board.

Earlier this week Sir Kenneth Keith, chairman of the company, said that the company would need more than £100m in working capital for 1976 and complained that it had been kept on "very short financial rations".

In his answer yesterday Mr Varley said that the NEB would become responsible for Rolls-Royce's financing.

But it was not possible to decide on the 1976 funds at present because the company had not yet put forward its operating plan. Current financing arrangements were continuing as necessary.

"For the longer term, Rolls-Royce have formulated a general strategy within which on December 9 they submitted broad financial forecasts for the next five years. These are now under examination.

"Decisions on individual civil engine projects within this programme will be made when the company make definite proposals and after a rigorous economic assessment."

Support, he continued was already committeed on RB 211 applications for the Lockheed TriStar and Boeing 747.

"The company have put forward no definite proposals at present for financial support for new projects although some possibilities are outlined in their five-year forecasts."

SE study of overseas securities

By Terry Byland

A committee to study developments in the markets for international securities in the United Kingdom has been set up by the Stock Exchange Council. The study is intended to collate information; provide indications of future trends, and identify areas of mutual interest between member firms, dealers and investors.

South African gold mining shares make up a significant proportion of the dealings in London in overseas registered shares.

But within the committee's scope will be the markets in Australian mining and industrial shares and the growing range of European and American-registered securities which are now traded in London.

The committee is calling for information from member firms, but also expects to meet representatives of major institutions with substantial overseas business.

An important topic is likely to be the vexed question of the investment dollar premium.

Bonn's money growth target set at 8pc

From Peter Norman
Frankfurt, Dec 18

West Germany's Federal Bank announced today that the central bank money supply next year should increase by an average of 8 per cent compared with the 1975 level.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the bank's central council in Frankfurt which was also attended by Dr Hans Friderichs, the West German economics minister and Herr Karl-Otto Pöhl, the finance ministry state secretary responsible for monetary affairs.

Their object was to lay down the monetary parameters for a continuing upswing in the economy next year while at the same time leaving no room for inflation.

Announcing the move at a press conference, Dr Karl Klasen, the Federal Bank's president, said he hoped business and the trade unions would use the monetary room for manoeuvre created by the bank's decision to increase production and employment, rather than push up costs and prices.

Central bank money stock in West Germany is a fairly esoteric concept, comprising cash in circulation plus 16 per cent of banks' sight deposits, 12 per cent of time deposits and 8 per cent of savings deposits.

The percentages correspond to the Federal Bank's minimum reserve rates for the various deposit categories at January 1, 1974, and have not been adjusted to take account of subsequent changes in the minimum reserve rates.

A year ago the Federal Bank announced that central bank money should increase by 8 per cent in 1975, and Dr Klasen was able to use the declaration with considerable effect in the spring to impress on employers and workers the need for moderate wage settlements.

Today Federal Bank officials were keen to stress the still experimental nature of the exercise

The Federal Bank held to its 8 per cent target for this year with remarkable precision until early autumn. Since then central bank money growth has accelerated

W Germany to float public loan of DM600m

From Peter Norman
Frankfurt, Dec 18

West Germany will issue a DM660m (about £124.5m) 8 per cent, six-year loan about the end of the year at 99.5 per cent, the federal bank announced.

The loan, which ends a new issue pause of nearly six months on the domestic capital market, took bankers by surprise because it was smaller than expected. A volume of DM800m had been confidently predicted while some of the larger underwriting banks had pleaded for an issue of DM1,000m.

Only DM600m of the new loan will go on public sale, with the federal bank holding back DM60m to even out price fluctuations.

Westinghouse will sell total Framatome stake

Westinghouse Electric has informed the French Government that it wants to sell all its stake in Société Framatome, according to informed sources in Paris.

The American company, which own 45 per cent of Framatome's capital, has already agreed to a French Government request to sell 30 per cent to the French atomic energy commission (CEA). An official announcement is expected before the end of the year.

Unit trust sales up

Unit trust sales in November were marginally higher at £27.9m compared to £27.1m in October. A further £100m was added to the total value of unit funds, which at the end of November stood at £2,471m—the highest value since October 1973.

AEG talks terminated

AEG-Telefunken confirmed reports in Frankfurt yesterday that talks with St-Gobain-Pont-à-Mousson concerning the possible sale of part of AEG's stake in Kraftwerke-Union AG, a nuclear power plant construction company, have temporarily ended.

Lagos deals cancelled

Four unnamed foreign companies have agreed to cancellation without compensation of four outstanding cement contracts with Nigeria, worth about 60m Naira (about £45m) the New Nigerian newspaper said in Lagos. One of the companies is said to be British.

Czech trade boost

For the first time since 1948, British companies will next year be able to set up direct commercial representation in Czechoslovakia, after changes made in Czechoslovakian law in accordance with the principles laid own at the Helsinki Conference.

Fridge sales up 14 pc

Sales of British-made refrigerators during September totalled 90,110, a rise of 14 per cent on the 1974 monthly total of 79,012.

US and Russia sign pact on grain shipment rates

Moscow, Dec 18.—The United States and the Soviet Union have reached a new agreement under which a $16 per long ton minimum rate for United States grain shipments to Russia will remain.

Mr Robert Blackwell, the United States Assistant Secretary of Commerce, and Mr Igor Averin, the head of the Soviet Merchant Marine Ministry's administration for foreign relations, signed the agreement after two days of talks here, according to a joint statement issued by the United States embassy here.

The agreement, which starts on January 1, will last for six years, and replaces a three-year accord.

Earlier this month in Moscow five days of talks had ended in deadlock after the Russians asked for a return to market charter rates for grain shipments, which could be as low as $10 a ton.

This would have been uneconomical for the United States, who last September made a temporary arrangement with the Soviet Union for the $16 minimum rate. This was attractive enough for American vessels to carry at least a third of grain shipments, which was also agreed at that time.

The new agreement is designed to extend the basic arrangements reached since 1972 concerning the carriage of cargoes between the United States and the Soviet Union, including the rate arrangements of September 17 regarding grain shipments to the Soviet Union.—Reuter.

BSC wins £9m pipe order for Indian oilfield

Against tough international competition the British Steel Corporation has won a £9m contract to supply pipe for a major offshore oilfield India.

Steelmakers from Japan, Germany, France, Italy and Canada were bidding for the order. It is ironic that the BSC, which has lost contracts to foreign producers for pipe for the North Sea oilfields should have picked up this one.

Deliveries will start early next year. Most of the contract will be met from the Tubes Division's spiral welded mill at Llanwern in south Wales.

The news coincided with the publication of the latest steel consumption figures by the Department of Industry. These showed that overall consumption rose by 0.6 per cent in the third quarter compared with the previous three months. Stock levels continued to fall.

OFT proposal to clarify consumer choice

By Our Consumer Affairs Correspondent

In a consultative document published yesterday, the Office of Fair Trading proposes two ways of giving a better deal to the consumer confused by advertised prices which do not include items like value-added tax.

The OFT suggests it should be an offence for anyone to state a selling price or charge for goods if that figure excludes the amount of tax the consumer must pay.

Also that it should be an offence to advertise any other price (for example the recommended retail price, or maximum, or a "typical" retail price) which excludes the amount of tax payable.

Under these suggestions a trader could give a breakdown of the "all-in" price, provided the total was shown in figures at least as prominent as the rest.

Comments on the proposals (before January 31) should be addressed to the OFT, New Court, Carey Street, London, WC2A 2JT.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Origin, mechanics and advantages of direct debit payments

From Mr W. F. Page

Sir, It is surprising that so many correspondents, writing on the subject of direct debiting, show a simple lack of knowledge of what the system is and how it works. It is basically a method of using computers to achieve clerical economies in making inter-bank transfers.

The system was introduced by the banks jointly some years ago and their principal customers using computers were asked to adopt it. There are two forms, quantified and unquantified debits. The quantified method is merely a system of preparing standing order payment slips. Once a customer has given his bank a standing order instruction to pay he is not entitled to dictate to the bank how it is to handle the documentation and prepare the payment slip.

The older method, of each bank preparing its own slips, many handwritten and many lacking in essential information, causes the creditor on receipt a a number of problems of identification.

My own local authority receives each month a principal list of some 11,000 standing order payments and it takes a week to process the list, after the correction of obvious errors, to arrive at the more difficult errors. A direct debit list, on the other hand, is already sorted into order and with correct references. It saves both the authority and the banking system time, trouble and money and therefore in the long run must save the ratepayer and customer money also in the form of reduced rates and/or charges.

The unquantified system is merely a development whereby the creditor can, with the debtor's consent, collect variable amounts due without the debtor having to write out a cheque and incur postage thereon. If the debtor prefers to pay by cheque there is no reason why he should not do so.

If a firm offered to save me money I would not regard it as impertinent. Nor, if something goes wrong, is it necessary to go on telephoning and writing for a year—one merely cancels the bank authority. The banks are covered since they require all users to sign forms of indemnity. And judging from the experience of my authority (which has 17,000 direct debit payers) the number of mistakes on direct debit systems is far less than on standing order systems.

Yours faithfully,
W. F. PAGE,
16 Forest Ridge,
Beckenham,
Kent.
December 12.

From Professor I. C. Whitfield

Sir, The situation is already considerably worse than Lord Moyne and Mr Carpenter (December 1 and 8) suppose. They refer to cases (with which we are all horribly familiar) where organizations attempt by more or less forceful persuasion to get customers to authorize unlimited access to their bank accounts.

Recently, the committee of an association to which I belong has introduced a rule that new members will be required to sign a direct debit undertaking as a condition of membership. Of course, the committee has been quick to point out that everyone has complete freedom not to join the association, and that the wonderful convenie for the treasurer must be overriding factor.

It will not be long, I pre before other organizations cover the wonderful conv ence of having uncontro access to their custom accounts and make such ac a condition of supply. We s be told, no doubt, that it "accepted practice", and will become so widespread t we shall have no option but conform. Surely, sir, we sho outlaw the direct debit sys now before it is too late.

Yours faithfully,
I. C. WHITFIELD,
38 Upland Road,
Selly Park,
Birmingham 29.
December 9.

From Mr P. J. Clowes

Sir, The way in which those your correspondents dissa fied with the workings of direct debit system appear seek redress is through company giving instructions the debit to be made.

Surely this is wrong? P haps I am lucky in that branch manager of my bank also antipathetic to the dir debit system. But on th occasions on which a debit been made without authority I have contacted h and instructed him to credit account. This he has done. has then had the inconvenie of collecting back from company the payment he ma without his customer's authori

Yours faithfully,
P. J. CLOWES,
Closewood House,
Newlands Lane,
Denmead,
Hampshire.
December 12.

Lifeguard—what of the brokers?

From Mr D. Elliott

Sir, In today's "Round-up" (December 6) you remark on the surrender values being offered to policyholders of the Lifeguard Assurance company. Very little has been said anywhere about the responsibilities of the insurance brokers who sold this company's policies. The bulk of Lifeguard's business was sold through brokers to whom they paid £3 per cent initial commission in advance. Thus a broker selling a whole life policy for £10,000 to a man aged 30 at an annual premium of about £100, earned £300 commission in advance. The 13,000 policyholders of the company can well feel aggrieved about the surrender values, but they should direct some of their questions to the financial considerations of the brokers who sold them the policies in the first place.

Yours faithfully,
D. ELLIOTT,
6 Broad Street,
Portsmouth PO1 2JE.
December 6.

Transferring money into Giro

From Mr J. Littlewood

Sir, Perhaps I could reply briefly to the further letter from Mr A. E. Reynolds (December 10) and that from Mrs D. M. Betts (December 9) about the arrangements for transferring money from a National Savings Bank account or other form of National Savings to a Giro account.

I am sorry that Mr Reynolds finds the present arrangements cumbersome and I can appreciate his wish to take maximum advantage of the internal transfer facilities provided within the Giro system. Unfortunately, however, to do so as he suggests would mean introducing additional and relatively expensive systems within this department which as matters stand could not be justified. The present arrangements, outlined in my earlier letter, make use of an existin withdrawal service and accoun ing system in a way which w find reasonably meets the co venience of most people wh wish to move savings mone direct to Giro.

On Mrs Betts's particul point I can confirm that th department is prepared to sen a remittance direct to th National Giro Centre for cred to a third party's account. Th normal requirement if we are do this is that our custome should provide an inpaymer form which of course the paye would eventually receive as h advice.

Yours faithfully,
J. LITTLEWOOD,
Director of Savings,
Department for National Savings,
Blythe Road,
London W14 1SB.

Job creation feat

From Mr S. G. Taylor

Sir, My initial reaction was to agree with Geoffrey Clarkson (December 10) that the benefit of the Job Creation Programme to unemployed young people would have been much improved if Manpower Services Commission had first consulted the voluntary youth organizations. On reflection I feel bound to admit that had the Commission pursued this court of action JCP would still be on the drawing board and its raison d'etre lost. The confusion injected by the conflicting views of the multipli city of voluntary agencies (of which we are one) would have more than offset the undoubted benefit that could be gained from their experience.

In the event, MSC acted decisively, planning and publishing details of this programme with such speed that the first employment started two weeks after the Government announce ment—a remarkable administrative feat! I have had the opportunity to talk with many young people engaged on the projects which have emerged; most appear to regard the work as a worthwhile experience even if it is not exactly related to their future careers—"the same idea as getting a job during the school holidays" was a typical observation. Almost all were continuing to seek permanent employment thereby using JCP exactly as intended—as an in-fill.

I am sure JCP can be improved and that the voluntary agencies will now play a useful consultative role. The first need, however, was to provide rapid employment—and this MSC has done.

S. G. TAYLOR,
Trustee,
The Look Wide Trust,
Unicentre, Preston PR1 1DS.
December 12.

'Most satisfactory' results for Birmid Qualcast

Salient points from the Report and Accounts for the 52 weeks ended 2nd August 1975, and from the statement to shareholders of the Chairman, Mr. R. Leigh-Pemberton:

It gives me great pleasure to report that the group has achieved results which are a significant improvement on the previous year and a record in the history of your Company.

The period has been one of mixed fortunes, the majority of product sectors returning to a more acceptable level of profitability but with one or two suffering a setback in trade. Against the problems faced this year I consider the overall group profit performance to be most satisfactory.

INFLATIONARY PRESSURES

Following the acquisitions of last year, the financial period under review has been one of consolidation. Inflationary pressures have forced us to halt the cash outflow and to start generating again the cash which is so vital to the ongoing future of the business. In the event we showed a net cash inflow for the year of £5,124,000, reducing the group's net overdrawn situation to £206,000 at the year end.

Cash generated from retained profits, aided this year by extra tax concessions in respect of stock appreciation relief and a reduction in working capital levels in real terms, was nevertheless insufficient to support the originally envisaged expenditure programme on fixed assets. The total amount of capital expenditure incurred was £4,539,000 which is almost identical to last year's figure.

EXPORTS

Despite increasingly competitive conditions abroad, the group achieved a further substantial increase in direct exports from the U.K. which, at £17,504,000, are more than 50% higher than last year.

PRODUCT SECTORS

Foundries: A very satisfactory result has been achieved, largely due to our success in maintaining a major share of both the light alloy and ferrous casting market and despite the increased penetration of foreign vehicles into the United Kingdom. The longer term importance to the U.K. economy of a soundly based iron and steel foundry industry in this country has recently been acknowledged by the Government. We have a heavy long-term capital spending plan for expansion together with a programme covering improvement, modernisation and replacement of plant.

Heating: We have held our unit market share and earned a small profit. We are confident that this Division has now reached a stable base which will enable us to meet future demands with eventual permanent benefits to the group.

Home and Garden Equipment: Profits show an increase over last year although with some erosion of profit margins. The dry weather created a sizeable decline in total customer demand for lawn mowers. However, improved operating efficiency and a continuing growth of market share in powered lawn mowers helped to hold profitability at a reasonable level.

	1975 £'000	1974 £'000
Turnover	161,408	120,629
Group Profit before loan stock interest and taxation	11,222	8,017
Net profit attributable to shareholders	5,053	2,362
Dividend for year (gross)	3.628p	3.4p

ANALYSIS OF 1975 SALES AND PROFITS

	% of total sales	% of total profit
Foundry Products	56	72
Heating Products	10	1
Home and Garden Equipment	17	27
Wrought and Engineering products	17	8
Interest payable less receivable, and miscellaneous items	—	(8)
	100%	100%

Wrought and Engineering Products: Profitability was reduced this year. This Divison is extremely diverse in nature and its product groups have suffered from reduced demand or other adverse factors.

FUTURE INVESTMENT INFLUENCED BY ADEQUACY OF PROFITS

In general, it would seem that any upturn in trade will come too late to have any significant benefit for the group as a whole in 1975/76.

Opportunities are being taken to invest, so far as is practicable, in new plant and equipment, to improve the group's ability to take advantage of better trading conditions and maintain employment opportunities. The extent of future investment is however largely influenced by the adequacy or otherwise of profits, and it is to be hoped that their role is becoming more widely understood. In our own situation this year, after providing for taxation and restricted dividends to shareholders, profits of £10,705,000 before taxation leave only £2,661,000 to be ploughed back into the business for future development. In relation to capital equipment costs today, for a group of our size this figure is inadequate, and an increase in retained profits would benefit customers, employees, shareholders and the nation alike. Removal of price controls coupled with more advanced thinking on corporate taxation policies would further enhance our confidence and ability to invest for the future.

BIRMID QUALCAST



GROUP PRODUCTS INCLUDE: Iron and Light Alloy Castings—over 1,000,000 are produced every week; Lawn Mowers (Qualcast, Atco, Suffolk and Folbate), Greenhouses and other garden products; Kitchen Furniture and other household articles including Carpet sweepers, ironing boards and Ladders; Potterton Central Heating Boilers; Wrought aluminium and magnesium alloys; Plastic, Engineering and Irrigation products.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary BIRMID QUALCAST LIMITED, SMETHWICK, WARLEY, WEST MIDLANDS, B66 1BW.

Business appointments

Two executive directors in ICI board reshuffle

Mr F. J. K. Hillebrandt, ICI treasurer, and Mr J. R. Ibbs, general manager, planning, are to be executive directors with effect from March 1. Mr A. W. Clements, ICI deputy treasurer, has been appointed treasurer in succession to Mr Hillebrandt, and Mr J. Lister, a deputy chairman of ICI petrochemicals division, has been made general manager, planning, in succession to Mr Ibbs. Both appointments will be effective from March 1.

Mr P. W. Cunliffe, a deputy chairman of ICI pharmaceuticals division, has become pharmaceuticals division chairman with effect from April 1. Dr R. G. J. Telfer, a deputy chairman of ICI petrochemicals division, has been appointed petrochemicals division chairman with effect from April 1. The following retirements will take place on March 31: Mr A. E. Frost, finance director; Mr J. H. Townsend, ICI director responsible for continental Europe; Mr R. G. Hoare, chairman of ICI pharmaceuticals division; and Dr A. W. Taylor, chairman of the petrochemicals division.

Mr R. C. Wickenden, vice-chairman and chief executive of Carreras Rothmans, is to retire as chief executive on December 31. He will continue as a non-executive director. Mr J. E. D. Clinton is appointed deputy chief executive of Carreras Rothmans from January 1. Mr S. K. Blair has been invited to join the board of Carreras Rothmans and has been made managing director of Carreras Rothmans (UK), the United Kingdom marketing subsidiary of the company, in succession to Mr Clinton.

Mr N. K. Kinkead-Weekes, an executive director of the Anglo American Corporation of South Africa and Charter Consolidated, will resign his appointments and return to Britain early next year. He is also leaving the board of Minerals and Resources Corporation.

As from June 1 Mr E. Bielinski is to head the Konzern Group Brown Boveri International, of which George Kent will form part. Mr Bielinski will remain non-executive chairman of George Kent and will be appointed deputy chairman of Brown Boveri Kent. Mr J. L. Lutyens, managing director, will take over as chief executive of the Kent Group.

Mr G. W. Barlow has been made chairman of the advisory committee for the Government's £25m scheme of assistance for the ferrous foundry industry. He is chairman and chief executive of Ransome Hoffmann and Pollard.

Mr J. A. Cumming, general manager, becomes chief general manager of the Woolwich Equitable Building Society on January 1. Four general managers are appointed to take specific executive responsibilities. They are: Mr W. E. Clarke, administration; Mr R. J. Hall, finance and planning; Mr D. H. Kirkham, operations and Mr G. M. Law, personnel.

The following composition of the Dowty Group board was announced yesterday. Mr Robert P. Hunt (chairman and chief executive); Mr S. Hinchliff (managing director, industrial), Mr W. N. Squire (managing director, aviation), Mr L. T. P. Banbury (director and secretary), Mr J. C. Bracher (financial director), and Mr K. W. Browning (director of personnel and training). Non-executive directors are: Mr L. Barber (financial adviser), Mr J. C. G. Wegerif (consultant), and Lord Thomas of Remenham.

The following have been elected to form the Committee of Lloyd's Underwriters' Association for 1976: Mr K. W. Bickle, Mr T. R. Brooks, Mr P. E. J. Cameron-Webb, Mr A. H. Chester, Mr C. O. Gibb, Mr R. C. J. Gordon, Mr P. J. F. Green, Mr T. W. Higgins, Mr G. W. Hutton, Mr S. R. Merrett, Mr J. A. Oliver, Mr R. H. M. Outhwaite, Mr K. L. Rennison, Mr M. J. Roddick and Mr K. F. Rust.

Mr Ben Raven, chairman of Rybeck, has been made chief executive, relinquishing his office as joint managing director. Mr Alfred Simons becomes deputy chairman, retaining his office of joint managing director. Mr Harold Davies becomes joint managing director.

Mr A. L. Hood is to become chairman of Tomkins Concessions, succeeding Mr R. F. Mellicott, who is retiring on December 31 but remains on the board.

Mr John Irwin has been appointed chief executive of Glynwed Foundries.

نسخة من الأصل

E EDITOR

idvantages

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

MEPC after the writedowns

ere was no rejoicing over sterday's figures from MEPC; r there was much relief. The eletons—Manhattan Center d the Exchange Centre in dney—are now out of the oboard; and although grisly ough—the former, in particu-, is going to be a lossmaker years—they are by no ans as overwhelming on in-ction as the bears of last umn would have had us ieve.

deanwhile, the write-off on esment properties was much line with expectations; and ough the asset backing to shares must remain in ubt until it is possible to put realistic value on the £77m- at which the properties d for development are in books, even if that has to written down by half the res at 77p are still selling at per cent plus discount.

hat and a healthy balance-et—borrowings repayable hin the next year are almost tched by cash and deposits £36.7m, and the group naged to sell £32m worth of perties even in last year's ditions simply that the down- potential to the shares is gible. The upside depends a large extent upon resump- of dividend payments, ich looks unlikely before the of this trading period.

dowever, with more to ne from reversions, the rst of the United Kingdom idential problems now eded out, and in all probabi-ity no repeat of last year's 84m provisions against loans d debts, the group should be k into the black by a modest ount at the end of this year. d although there is likely to some profit taking short- m, that and a recovery in the operty market generally ould now make the shares a od holding on a longer view.

counts: 1974-75 (1973-74)
pitalization £82.3m
t assets £239m (£284m)
rrowings £372m (£331m)
e-tax loss £3.65m (£14.14m*)
rnings per share nil (4.29p)
*Profit



Mr Jimmy Goldsmith, chairman of Cavenham: strength in France.

optimistic forecast this time last year. A prospective yield of 6½ per cent provides some prop for the shares but the prospective p/e of around 13½ is fairly demanding.

Moreover, the prospect of a rights issue at some stage cannot be ruled out given the likely strain of financing new whisky stocks once demand improves and given that Distillers would probably like to get rid of its Swiss franc borrowings which were mainly behind the £3m of exchange losses on loans in the first half.

Interim	1975-76	(1974-75)
Capitalization	£501m	
Sales	£341m	(£292m)
Pre-tax profits	£42.5m	(£44.1m)
Dividend gross	3.096p	(3.004p)

Rothmans Int

A strong recovery

Rothmans may have stirred up considerable interest this autumn with suggestions that the market could expect it to follow the diversification road trodden by the other tobacco majors, but the fact remains that it is difficult to see just how the group is going to be able to achieve this. Although gearing may well drop this year, it is still likely to be high enough in the market's eyes, while tobacco company paper is hardly the most attractive takeover currency these days.

In Rothmans' case, for instance, the shares have outperformed the market by almost a third since mid-summer, but there now seems little prospect of this relative strength going very much further despite a (fully-diluted) prospective p/e (at 35p) of around 5½.

The recovery in the half-year to end September is, in fact, some way ahead of most market estimates, thanks to profit recovery in both Germany and Britain and, in particular, notably strong growth in exports. It could well be that market estimates of around £36m pre-tax for the full year could prove on the low side too. But the doubt remains as to what happens once the year of recovery is over. What Rothmans will probably need to convince the market of more than any other single factor is that it can reverse any underlying decline in its German market situation.

Interim: 1975-76 (1974-75)
Capitalization £48.5m
Sales £557m (£480m)
Pre-tax profits £20.2m (£14.3m)
Dividend gross 0.92p (0.81p)

Cavenham

Reducing the gearing

As it promised it would do, Cavenham has been concentrating its efforts on cash conservation. Disposals, largely in France, have brought in some £16m in cash and have cut borrowings by a further £13m, so that gearing in relation to shareholders' funds is now down from 73 per cent at the last year end to a much more attractive 47½ per cent. These changes came too late to have much impact on the first half trading results, but the fact that interest payments were a shade down at £7m—albeit helped by exchange rate adjustments—suggests that the tight grip is not being relaxed elsewhere.

For the rest, one has a sales and profit growth dead in line at 18 per cent, which kept the stock market happy and pushed up the share price 6p to 135p. But within that it is clear that the United Kingdom has not been faring well, with profits largely unchanged.

In the United States, too, the results have been disappointing. So the United Kingdom profit contribution is down from 36 to 31 per cent and that of the United States from 30 to 25 per cent, leaving the running mainly to the rest of the European community.

Admittedly, around a third of the profit upturn overall came from exchange rate benefits, but there should be more of that to come in the second half, too, and with Grand Union hopefully picking up, a full year outcome of £32m or £33m seems reasonable, compared to £27.1m last year. Cavenham's swings and roundabouts are certainly proving their worth, but the shares, prospectively yielding 4.8 per cent, are already acknowledging that.

Interim: 1975/6 (1974/5)
Capitalization £110m
Sales £946m (£800m)
Pre-tax profits £19.9m (£16.8m)
Dividend gross 2.25p (2.0p)

Dobson Park

All-round improvement

Dobson Park's pre-tax profits of £8.03m, half as good again as the previous year—and some £500,000 better than outside estimates—on turnover 36 per cent ahead at £78.4m, vindicates the market's faith in mining equipment suppliers now that the coal industry has a more assured future.

But with the company talking about shortened order books—not so much in mining machinery where they are well up to last year's level but in engineering and construction—and a standstill in current year earnings, this was not enough to prevent the shares slipping 2p to 43p yesterday.

Perhaps the most encouraging side to the 1974-75 figures is how well the engineering, construction and consumer divisions have fared, pushing up the contribution of the non-mining interests to trading profits from 56 to 62 per cent. Even so, there is no gainsaying the solid performance from mining machinery where profits have gone from £2.22m to £2.82m.

However, Dobson Park is pressing ahead with its high level of capital spending in the face of a possible tapering off in the rate of increase of demand.

Though the cash position has improved by just under £1m, rising working capital requirements are reflected in higher interest charges but the group's overdraft facilities are good and the balance sheet still strong.

The improved status of mining equipment suppliers is already apparent in Dobson Park's yield of 6.2 per cent at 43p, even if a p/e ratio of 6½ gives some room for manoeuvre over its close competitor Dowty.

Final: 1974-75 (1973-74)
Capitalization £24.8m
Sales £78.4m (£57.8m)
Pre-tax profits £8.03m (£5.39m)
Earnings per share 6.6p (4.4p)
Dividend gross 2.67p (2.43p)

The West Midlands looks abroad to find new prosperity

For most of the 1950s and 1960s the West Midlands and prosperity were synonymous. If it was true in most regions that "you never had it so good" it could fairly have been said of the West Midlands that "you had it best".

Times have changed. The car industry has long been the mainstay of the region's economy. But now that this industry is in trouble the region is in trouble, too. The Chrysler situation, with the prospect of 8,000 jobs being lost nationally—3,000 of them in the West Midlands—has focused widely held fears and anxieties.

The unemployment rate has reached 5 per cent and is significantly above the national average. This is in sharp contrast to the local labour market for most of the postwar period when unemployment tended to be consistently below the national average.

Can the West Midlands regain its position as the most prosperous area in Britain? Or does the decline in the car industry imply that it will become another depressed region like the North or Wales?

The regional labour force is nearly 2¼ million. Of these about 200,000, or roughly 10 per cent, are employed in vehicle manufacture.

Another 180,000 work in industries which supply the vehicle makers with tyres, windows and parts, while a large number of factories make steel or other products which are the basic material for these component suppliers.

Moreover, unlike the South-east or North-west, the West Midlands does not have a diversified economy in other respects. Chemicals and the newer electrical industries are sparsely represented. Instead, the region is biased towards "metal bashing", the necessary but unglamorous industries which make such things as steel tubes, iron castings, hand tools and mechanical screws.

Adjustment towards a more varied industrial structure is likely to be difficult and protracted. But it is important to distinguish between the region's purely cyclical problems and the more long-term problem posed by the contraction of the car industry.

The present recession would have hit the region hard even if the car industry had been an unimportant element in its economy. Because of the unprecedented financial problems of the company sector in 1974 there has been a drastic process of destocking in 1975. Companies have cut down stocks of inputs of all kinds down to the lowest possible levels.

Wholesalers handling goods from cars to washing machines have reduced their stocks of finished goods. The producers of finished goods have cut back their component stocks. Component makers have reduced stocks of semi-finished steel products—and so on, down to the supplier of the most basic part or material.

This stock "pipeline", as local industrialists call it, has one unfortunate characteristic. A small decline in demand at the retail level sets off a destocking process which can cause a very large decline in demand for basic parts and materials. Any region which specializes on making such parts, and the West Midlands which is one such "metal bashing" specialist, is certain to be badly hit indeed.

But it must be said that the car industry is not the worst area to be affected by the recession. Levels of capacity utilization in plants making such humdrum products as aluminium alloys or steel tubes are in some cases lower than those in British Leyland or Chrysler factories.

The mechanical screws industry, which literally makes "nuts and bolts", employs 15,000 people in the West Midlands, about the same as Chrysler. It is now operating at roughly 50 per cent of capacity, with all that entails for redundancies and unemployment. Only 10 per cent of its output is sold to the car industry.

But the misfortunes of industries such as these have received nothing like as much attention as those of the car industry and the industries

Tim Congdon

have not even remotely been considered as candidates for government assistance.

Although the region would be scared by an immediate or precipitate Chrysler or Leyland shut-down, there is also resentment in these regions that the high wages paid by car companies should now be subsidized by public money. Other factories have to match the pay levels set by the car producers.

It would, of course, be quite wrong to recommend indiscriminate public support for any industry in trouble. When the next cyclical recovery comes the "metal bashing" industries are likely to benefit strongly, particularly as stocks are rebuilt to more normal levels. This part of the regional problem may prove, therefore, to be temporary.

There seems to be agreement, however, that the difficulties in the car industry are not temporary. The problem here is fundamental and necessarily involves the more long-term question of the structure of West Midlands industry in the 1980s.

No one knows how large the car industry proper—that is those factories which make car bodies and assemble the final product—will be in five or 10 years time. The report by the Central Policy Review Staff talks of a range between 760,000 and 1.9 million units of production by 1985 and would not seem to offer any definite guidance whatever.

But it is obvious that the main car producers in the West Midlands are in deep financial trouble and that there are limits to government support. It is a safe assumption that the number of workers employed by the car industry will contract in the medium-term future.

Can the workers who leave the car industry find jobs elsewhere? Is there scope for expansion in other industries?

There are two important distinctions here—one between the high volume popular car industry, the specialist car and commercial vehicle industry; and the other between the car assembly plants and the components suppliers.

Production of tractors and commercial vehicles, while it has been affected by the recession, has not faced the same problems as production of popular medium-priced cars. Reasonable profits are still being earned in these branches of the vehicle industry, while sports and high-quality cars continue to form the healthiest part of British Leyland.

Similarly, the component suppliers, with GKN, Lucas and Tube Investments as the prime examples, have remained profitable throughout the present recession. Their success is partly due to determined efforts to increase exports to European car producers, efforts which have been much helped by the depreciation of the pound.

These areas are clearly those where Britain has a comparative advantage. If the Government did not intervene and check the process of adjustment by artificially protecting Leyland and Chrysler, it is very likely that they would absorb many of the workers forced out of the high volume car plants.

Indeed, it does not require much imaginative insight into recent company announcements to see that the component suppliers are already developing a corporate strategy which assumes a much more modest British car industry by the 1980s.

For example, GKN has recently purchased a German components manufacturer as part of its drive to capture a larger share of the German market and Lucas has expanded its production of spare parts for European makes of car. The ratio of export to domestic sales has been rising for all the main component companies in the last two or three years.

If adjustments like this do take place and, apart from the danger of endless and indefinite subsidies to inefficient car plants, there is no reason why they should not, the West Midlands should resume its position as one of the most prosperous regions in the United Kingdom. Both the cyclical problem of the "metal bashing" industries and the long-term problem of a declining car industry can be solved if local businessmen are left to get on with the job. Time and government indifference are the most reliable cures.

Licensing powers needed for data bank privacy body

The Government's White Paper on computers and privacy, which finally emerged this week, is a welcome first step along the road to safeguarding personal privacy as public and private computer systems become more powerful and all-embracing.

As well as defining a framework within which proposed legislation can be discussed and safeguards monitored, it makes public for the first time a substantial amount of information on central-government computer systems and the extent to which the information held in them is made available across departmental boundaries.

It will be several years before legislation is enacted to put teeth into the White Paper's expressions of good intent, and part of that time will be needed to consider in detail the implications of relevant points of technology.

But even at this stage it is possible to identify some of the key issues which will shape the future control of computer privacy. And on at least one major point of organization, the White Paper leaves uncertain an all-important principle which could and should have been accepted at the outset.

Starting point is the Government's decision that legislation is needed to set up machinery "to seek to secure that all existing and future computer systems in which personal information is held, in both the private and public sectors, are operated with appropriate safeguards for the privacy of the subject of that information".

The "appropriate safeguards" envisaged are broadly those laid down by the Younger Committee on Privacy, which reported on private-sector aspects in 1972.

These in essence said that information should be held for specific purposes only; access should be limited to those authorized; the information held should be the minimum needed; statistical information systems should not involve identities; a person should be able to know what information is held about him; security levels should be specified, and monitored; information should be held only for specified periods; data should be accurate; and care should be taken in recording "value judgments".



A Metropolitan Police computer at work at New Scotland Yard.

Much of the information now going into computers, the White Paper points out, is regarded by most people as particularly sensitive—medical records, criminal records, personal social services, education and work records, financial information and so on.

"The public is therefore entitled to have satisfactory assurances that its data—and especially those which are sensitive—are held and used responsibly, with due regard to accuracy, completeness, relevance, security and confidentiality".

And, in the Government's view, "the time has come when those who use computers to handle personal information, however responsible they are, can no longer remain the sole judges of whether their own systems adequately safeguard privacy. The safeguards must become subject to independent scrutiny . . .".

One option would be to lay down by law detailed regulations for the operation of all computer systems. This the Government have rejected—rightly, since systems vary enormously, and the technology is fast-advancing.

Instead, a new "permanent, statutory agency" is proposed, the details of which are to be worked out by an interim data protection committee which is to be appointed "at once". In its discussion of the permanent authority, the White Paper is less than decisive.

On the one hand, it says, the authority could be a registration and licensing agency, able to insist that privacy safeguards are observed as a condition for granting licences. Without a licence, no personal-information databank could be operated.

But on the other hand, it continues, the authority could be "a body with power to call for information on what systems are being operated, by whom, how and subject to what safeguards; to make and publicize its own recommendations about those systems; to investigate complaints and suspected malpractices; and to publish its findings.

In other words, a purely advisory Ombudsman-type group.

There are arguments for both of these choices, the White Paper claims. But, if the importance of the subject is accepted (as it clearly is in the rest of the White Paper), it is difficult to see any possible argument which would come down in favour of the purely advisory body in preference to a licensing authority.

In the United States, the Privacy Act of 1974 requires all federal agencies to identify their record-keeping systems each year and, among a group of Younger-type requirements, to "permit individuals to examine records relating to them, and to correct or amend them".

In Sweden, under the 1973 Data Act, no databank holding personal information may be maintained in either the public or the private sector unless approved by a data inspection board.

In the Council of Europe, also, a set of stringent databank safeguards is being recommended to governments. Without a firm regulatory/licensing authority, any national scheme would be ineffective; presumably the British data protection committee, when formed, will waste little time on the advisory-group option.

The White Paper discloses that there are at present 219 computer-based administrative "tasks" in 21 central-government departments and agencies in Britain which use personal information about people other than the Government's own staff.

These include 51 in the Scottish Office, 40 in the Department of Health and Social Security, and 14 in the Home Office.

Seven indexes, for example, are held by the Home Office's Police National Computer Unit, Hendon. These list vehicle owners, wanted and missing persons, disqualified drivers, persons convicted of criminal offences, fingerprints of convicted persons, persons subject to suspended sentences, and stolen vehicles.

"The Government have no plan to construct a central databank which would bring together in one computer system all the personal information available in government departments", the White Paper reports. "The administrative advantages to be gained from such a course are debatable."

This may not continue to be the Government view as technology moves forward. Already the distinction between "central" and "dispersed" databanks is becoming blurred, as hardware costs continue to drop, microprocessors give added power at the operating level, and "distributed networks" of computers open up new possibilities.

The proposed data protection committee will have to watch this particular debate very carefully.

Computers and privacy Cmnd 6353, HMSO (28p); *Computers: safeguards for privacy* Cmnd 6354, HMSO (55p).

Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

Business Diary: Talking shop • Slater, Walker loses Aitken

Joseph Godber, who was named yesterday as the next chairman of the Retail Consortium, had an inauspicious introduction to shop trading. "Before I entered politics I was involved in producing food", he said. "I was irritated because when growers had a surplus and prices fell it was never reflected in the shops.

"So I bought a shop and put in a manager and in three years I was very glad to get out of it. I have had a great respect for retailers ever since. I did not understand the complexity of the problems that retailers have to face."

Mr Godber, who was Minister of Agriculture in the most recent Conservative government, continues the consortium tradition of choosing elder Conservative statesmen to lead it. He will take over in March from Lord Redmayne, who as Martin Redmayne was Chief Whip under Harold Macmillan.

Mr Godber's appointment was a surprise to members of the consortium who had expected the job to go to one of them. John Sainsbury, an influential and vocal figure in shop politics, was heavily tipped to win.

Business Diary asked Mr Godber if he was not about to become a poacher turned gamekeeper. After all, when facing Shirley Williams next year in talks about the Price Code he would be discussing something for which he was partly responsible as a minister in the Heath government.

"I think it's more a case of the gamekeeper turning poacher", he said. "I would have thought that gamekeepers who turn poachers often make good poachers."

He said that the offer of the chairmanship had come "completely out of the blue" in October. "The consortium is completely non-political", he added.

But, judging from the chairmanship race so far, it looks as if Margaret Thatcher will one day be uniquely qualified to take on the chairmanship herself.

Mr Godber said yesterday that he was coming to the job in exactly the opposite direction to that of Lord Redmayne, who as a director of the House of Fraser is strong on the department store field. Mr Godber, as a director of Booker McConnell and consultant to Beecham, comes from the food distribution and trading side.

"When you get to things like furnishings, cosmetics and tobacco, I have got to learn a great deal", he said.

Lord Redmayne will stay on as deputy chairman for 12 months after Mr Godber takes over the top job.

The Retail Consortium's Godber and Lord Redmayne: she walks, she talks but can she be made to listen?

Clearing out

While Jimmy Goldsmith struggles in Singapore to get back the money that Slater, Walker lent to Haw Par, Jonathan Aitken, the Tory MP for Thanet East, is preparing to leave St Paul's Churchyard.

He joined Slater, Walker originally as Jim Slater's personal assistant and then ran the SW Arab operations, as managing director of Slater Walker (Middle East).

Apart from a general feeling that the time has come to move on from Slater, Walker, it seems that doing business in Saudi Arabia has become less easy for Slater, Walker since the increasingly close connexion developed with the house of Rothschild.

No one seems quite clear where Aitken may be working next. If he stays in banking, might he be moving to one of the clearing banks?

Jobs for the girls

Francis Blanchard, director-general of the International Labour Office, is taking on as an assistant Nobuko Takahashi, a Japanese civil servant who is one of her country's foremost experts on women's employment.

Mrs Takahashi will be responsible for all ILO activities on behalf of women workers but will also advise Blanchard on Asian programmes.

As an assistant director-general, Mrs Takahashi will be highest ranking woman at the ILO, a United Nations agency that tries to promote loving kindness on the world labour front as the parent body is supposed to do in politics.

She is a former director of the women's and minors' bureau of her country's Ministry of Labour, was a delegate to the 1973 Asian labour ministers' conference and has recently been in Bangladesh and Vietnam advising the regimes under a regional programme in which the ILO and the Japanese Government are cooperating.

The appointment is not one of those boring International Women's Year stunts. Mrs Takahashi is in fact the second woman to become an assistant director general of ILO, the first being Mrs Ana Figueroa, a Chilean, who retired eight years back.

The position of women in Asia as workers, or indeed as anything else, is desperate and Mrs Takahashi's experience should therefore be of great use to Blanchard.

But it's not only outside Western Europe that it's difficult to persuade governments to internationally accepted standards of reasonableness.

Our Equal Pay Act, which comes into force on Monday week, is an elaboration of a 1919 ILO convention establishing the principle of "equal remuneration for work of equal value".

The principle was reaffirmed by the ILO in 1951, but not ratified until 20 years later by the United Kingdom, the seventy-first state to do so.

Matthew Hall

Interim Report

The Directors of Matthew Hall & Co. Limited announce the Group's results (unaudited) for the nine months ended 30th September, 1975.

	Nine Months to 30.9.1975 £'000	Nine Months to 30.9.74 £'000	Twelve Months to 31.12.74 £'000
Group profit on trading	1,393	987	1,865
Interest receivable	130	224	253
Profit before taxation	1,523	1,211	2,118
Taxation	920	667	1,124
	603	544	994
Outside shareholders' interests	(12)	(4)	(4)
	591	540	990
Ordinary dividends	153	150	602

The Board anticipates that the Group profit before taxation for the year 1975 will be not less than £2.5 Million (1974 forecast £2 Million).

It has been a successful period for the Engineering Companies which have made a considerable improvement in their profits: these Companies have continued to be heavily involved in North Sea oil offshore contracts and have widened their workload in other important directions in the energy field. Despite the difficult time the Construction Industry is facing, we anticipate the Mechanical and Electrical Services business will exceed its record result of last year.

Mr. A. L. Pearson, the Group Managing Director, retired on the 31st October, 1975 after serving the Company for 36 years, having contributed greatly to the growth of the Group, and we wish him a long and happy retirement. He is succeeded as Group Managing Director by Mr. D. E. Clancey, Chairman and Chief Executive of Matthew Hall Engineering Limited.

An interim dividend is declared of 1.433p per share, which together with its associated tax credit, is equivalent to a gross dividend of 2.205p per share (1974 1.959p per share) and this will be paid on 12th February, 1976 to holders of Ordinary shares registered at the close of business on 12th January, 1976.

Matthew Hall & Co. Ltd. Matthew Hall House, Tottenham Court Road, London W1A 1BT

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Sighs of relief in property after MEPC

With the Chancellor's easing of credit restrictions having *little effect on shares*, it was left to company results, notably Distillers, to provide most of the features on the London stock market yesterday.

The *FT* Index spent most of the day just below its overnight level, but broke through it at 3 pm and closed 0.4 better, at 368.7. There was relief on the property pitch that the MEPC results were not as bad as feared and the sector now seems set for a solid advance.

One or two brokers like Coalite and Chemical Products despite the recent disappointing news from Siebens (UK) wherein the group has a small stake. There are prospects elsewhere in the North Sea and the main business in smokeless fuel and chemicals is going well. There is gossip of a bid, but the group says it has not had an approach. Even so, the shares are firm at 21p.

The gilt-edged market remained firm. Some profit-taking developed in the afternoon, but all sections closed higher on the day. The short-dated "tap" price rose at the opening, encouraging the shorter end to move forward. There were some hopes for a reduction in Minimum Lending Rate today.

"Shorts" opened 1-16 point up. At one stage rises amounted to ⅛ or 3-16 point. But they were eventually trimmed back 1-32 or 1-16 point.

"Longs" were ¼ point up at one stage, helped by modest buying. Business was at low levels, but there was enough interest to justify the price *rises. Eventually most stocks* were ¼ point higher.

The "blue chips" had a *mixed day with* **Unilever** up 4p to 420p and **Reed International** better by 5p to 247p, proving the best. But at the other end of the range, **Pilkington Brothers** gave up 3p to 292p.

Under the lead of **Distillers**, 8p to the good at 138p after bullish interim results, drinks shares were a firm market with profits from **HP Bulmer** adding 5p to 93p and **Vaux** trading *firmly at 282p.*

Properties and foods likewise found their inspiration in *results with* **MEPC** 8p firmer to 77p (**Land Securities** rose 5p to 165p and **Great Portland** 6p to 222p in sympathy) while **Cavenham** climbed 6p to 135p, though **SW Berisford** lost 2p to 135p.

HC Janes lost 5p to 164p on Wednesday's gains which stemmed from the Barratt offer; **Brown Brothers** added 2p to 18p after **Dana's** minority bid; *and* **Henlys** *firmed 5p to 76p in* sympathy.

Stewart Plastics came back 3p *to 81p after the dip caused by* the breakdown of the talks with **Bowater** while **Avon Rubber**, off 1p to 50p, sold its 3m shares in RFD through the market. This represents just over 22 per cent of the capital.

Inveresk Paper 64½p shaded firmer on reports that terms *may be on the way from St* Regis Paper, the United States company.

Activity in the shares of London & Overseas Freighters (Lofs) has been put down to takeover speculation. Close market followers of the company, however, dismiss this as improbable. But they do suggest that Lofs may consider a move of domicile soon—possibly to Switzerland.

Other features included **Barclays Bank** 303p and **Midland Bank** 295p, up 8p and 10p in a strong sector, and **Thorn** "A", 4p better to 210p, **Hoover** 5p to 310p and **Gomme** *3p to* 89p, all aided by the Chancellor's new proposals.

United Scientific shot up 12p to 82p after results, while **Rothmans** gained 1p to 35p, **Matthew Hall** 1p to 117p and **Illingworth Morris** 1p to 28p in the ordinary and 1p to 27p for the "A". **Charterhouse** edged firmer to 52p.

Equity turnover on December 17 was £73.91m (12,840 bargains). *Active stocks yesterday* were: Distillers, MEPC, ICI, Trafalgar House, BP, United Scientific, Royal Insurance, Shell, Glaxo, BOC Int, Beecham and Grand Metropolitan.

Latest dividends

Company (and par values)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Baker Perkins (50p) Int	1.5	1.5	12/1	—	3.25
S. & W. Berisford (25p) Fin	3.41	3.29	2/4	5.9	5.54
Bromsgrove (5p) Int	0.7	0.7	26/2	—	1.7
Brunner Inv (25p) Fin	1.46	1.34	—	2.59	2.42
H. F. Bulmer (25p) Int	0.93	0.87	10/2	—	2.54
Cavenham (25p) Int	1.46	1.34	17/3	—	3.87
Century Secs (10p) Fin	Nil	1.19	—	0.78	1.89
Charterhouse (25p) Fin	2.17	2.17	—	3.05	3.05
Deanson Fin	1.89	1.77	25/2	1.89	1.77
Delson (10p) Fin	1.5	1.5	21/2	1.5	1.5
Distillers (50p) Int	2.01	2.01	27/2	—	5.37
Dobson Park (10p) Fin	1.1	1.06	5/3	1.73	1.62
Dom Holdings (10p) Int	1.3	1.3	5/2	—	3.23
Eucalyptus (25p) Int	1.5	1.5	—	—	4.62
Matthew Hall (25p) Int	1.43	1.31	12/2	—	5.28
Howard Tenens (20p) Int	0.74	0.74	4/5	—	1.69
Illingworth (20p) Int	0.28	0.28	2/4	—	1.34
A. Monk (25p) Int	1.25	1.25	31/1	—	3.93
Norton & Wright	1.06	1.0	28/11	—	3.0
Petbow (10p) Int	2.5	1.65	23/1	7*	5.08
Plysu (10p) Int	0.44	0.40	2/2	—	1.03
Rothmans Int (12½p) Int	0.6	0.54	29/1	1.65	1.52
Stenhouse Hldgs (£1)	1.92	1.75	15/4	3.3	3.12
Trans-Oceanic (25p) Fin	2.6	2.3	13/2	3.65	3.35
Trustees Corp (25p) Int	1.2	1.2	10/2	—	2.95
Utd Scientific (25p) Fin	1.76	1.75	12/4	2.61	2.45
Vaux Breweries (£1) Int	3.9	3.35	3/2	—	12.8

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54. * Forecast.

S & W Berisford tops forecast

Justifying the confidence early last month, international food group **S. & W. Berisford** tops the forecast in the rights issue of a bumper £9.1m pre-tax with a 23 per cent jump to £9.33m. Turnover in the year to September 30 rose 12.4 per cent to £598.7m. The "available" jumped 15.6 per cent to £4.52m, and as indicated the total payout is lifted from 8.26p to 9.1p.

Pre-tax profits rose 15.4 per cent to £4.63m at halfway, when Mr Norman Castle, chairman, expected progress to continue. The improved result for the year attributable partly to the re-shaping of several of the United Kingdom companies. In the first leg the United Kingdom side doubled its contribution but profits from North America faded because of quieter conditions in commodities.

Charterhouse fails to offset bad first half

By Chrisstopher Wilkins

The profits of the Charterhouse Group showed some recovery in the second half year after a dip of £1.8m to £1.47m in the first half, but the full year profits still ended well down from £7.85m to £5.10m.

The recovery was primarily due to the revival in the group's manufacturing operations where Charcon, which had made a first half loss, pulled back to make a small profit for the year as a whole. Thanks to much improved performances by Newage Engineers and Alenco, the manufacturing downturn was restricted to £834,000 at £4.04m.

The group's banking and financial activities suffered a sharper setback, however. Profits were down from £2.03m to £774,000. Charterhouse Japhet maintained its operating profit, but profits from dealing in securities were well down. The group's other financial activities turned in a loss, mainly because there were no sales of properties held for dealing in Scotland.

Profits were also lower in the development and venture capital business because of provisions against two French investments, but the distribution an *dinsurance* interests both turned in improved results.

During the year the group reduced its borrowings from £45m to £39m. The net dividend is unchanged, although at the gross level it is up from 4.55p to 4.7p.

Baker Perkins' overseas spur

Against a loss of £297,000, Baker Perkins Holdings reports greatly improved profits before tax of £1.59m for the half year to September 30. These compare with pre-tax profits of £2.67m for the 15 months to March 31 last. Turnover moved from £25.4m to £31.5m.

The latest six months showed some change in the pattern of business. Smaller United Kingdom sales were offset by bigger business overseas, specially in America and Australia. There was also a notable improvement in the volume and profitability of exports.

Group borrowings have fallen by £1.3m since March 31, and liquidity remains sound. The reduction would have been greater but for the depreciation of sterling. Thanks to the low tax liability arising from previous tax losses, a loss of £408,000 gave way to a profit of £1.15m. The interim dividend is 2.31p gross against 2.24p.

H. Morris says AI bid withdrawn

Amalgamated Industrials' 60p a share bid for the remainder of Herbert Morris, the Loughborough crane maker, is "totally unacceptable", says *Morris. It has been withdrawn* pending the outcome of a Monopolies Commission findings. *Meantime, Morris says* that the results for the year to November 2 (to be announced in February) will more than fulfil interim expectations of £762,000 before tax. AI is a subsidiary of Bryanston Finance, now being investigated by the Department of Trade. AI also bought a further 4.5 per cent of Morris in November, to add to its existing 31.1 per cent.

Eucalyptus cheer

While the second six months are not expected to be as good, *Eucalyptus Pulp Mills has more* than doubled its pre-tax profits for the half year to June 30 to *£1.2m. Earnings a share are up* from 8.2p to 17.9p, and the board has arranged for an unchanged dividend of 1.5p a share to be remitted from Portugal. The two mills there have continued to operate. Contract *fulfilment guarantees in*volving the wood-purchasing organization, which amounted to £3.2m at the end of 1974, have now been cut to £1.7m.

Vaux cautious after sound start

Operating chiefly in the North-East, Yorkshire and Scotland, Vaux Breweries pushed up *pre-tax profits in the six-months* to October 31 from £1.83m to £2.19m. Turnover rose from £21.4m to £28.4m. The profit was struck after finance charges of £558,000 against £507,000. The half-time payment rises from 5p gross to 6.01p.

Mr Douglas Nicholson, chairman, says that turnover rose 33 per cent reflecting a good summer, but inflation bit into margins. By far the largest increase in costs was the £2.8m in extra duties paid to the Government. It is hoped to maintain the final dividend at 14.6p though the immediate future is "uncertain".

Cope Allman warning

Underlying the warning in his annual statement a month ago, Mr L. J. Manson, who heads packaging, engineering, fashion and leisure group **Cope Allman** *International, now looks for* profits in the six months to December 31 of less than £2m against £3.78m. *The second*-half however should see a "positive" improvement, particularly in aerosol valves and cosmetic containers, the annual meeting was told.

United Scientific soars

After almost doubling pre-tax profit profits to £871,000, in the year to September 30, United Scientific Holdings, the optical, scientific and electronic equipment group is now looking for more than £1m this year.

Turnover went up from £4.2m to £7.1m, and bank borrowings were eliminated. Indeed, a net overdraft was replaced by a £270,000 deposit. Earnings a share leapt 89 per cent to 8.57p, and the dividend goes *up from* 3.65p to 4.01p.

Illingworth, Morris stays in the black

A 10 per cent fall in interim pre-tax profits to £777,000 before tax and a forecast that the group would remain profitable come from wool and textiles group Illingworth, Morris. The shares duly hardened. Turnover for the six months to September 30 rose from £41m to £43.5m, thanks mainly to exports and output overseas.

The dividend rises from 0.41p gross to 0.43p though net profits were £471,000, against £611,000. Over the whole of last year pre-tax profits fell from a record £5.1m to £1.7m, as textiles slumped.

Howard Tenens slides into red

The news from Howard Tenens Services is gloomy. It slid into *the red in the six months to* September 30 and despite corrective steps a further loss in *the second six months is likely.* But a return to profit is foreseen for the year to March 31, 1976.

This export packer and maker of packing cases, pressings, and motor bodies, reports an attributable loss for the first half year of £384,000 against a profit of £554,000. Turnover was £18.79m against £19.3m.

The interim dividend is 1.13p gross against 1p. The final will be considered when the full figures are available.

M. Hall buoyant

Industrial engineer Matthew Hall, reports pre-tax profits for the nine months to September 30 up from £1.21m to £1.52m, it also forecasts a record £2.5m compared with £2.12m for the year. The interim dividend rises from 1.96p gross to 2.21p gross. Engineering (with an *involvement in North Sea oil* offshore contracts) did much better, and mechanical and electrical services should turn in record contributions.

Petbow placing as profits take off

Reporting interim profits rocketing from £560,000 to £1.17m before tax for the first half—*Petbow Holdings* (generating sets, Kc) also announces a placing of 1.2m ordinary shares at 142p each, to raise some £1.66m. Directors, families, Kc, hold 67 per cent of the equity and indicate that they would not have been able to take up their entitlement from a rights issue.

Sales for the half jumped from £4.39m to £8.06m. The dividend rises from 2.54p gross to 3.85p, and a total for 1975-76 of 10.8p against 7.75p is forecast. Treasury consent has been given. Inspite of all this, the shares dropped a few points yesterday.

PLAIN SPEAKING ON GOLD
An outspoken analysis of some of the problems which have beset the price of gold over the year is given by Mr G. Relly, chairman of Rand Selection, in his annual review, published today.

BRIDPORT-GUNDRY
With a further £228,000 spent *in the past year on productive* investment and re-equipment, directors are confident that company ready to take advantage of any upturn in demand, "which will surely develop".

DANKS GOWERTON
Turnover for half-year to September 30, £5.25m (£4.28m). Pre-tax profit, £382,000 (£347,000).

KEYSTONE INVESTMENT
Group revenue, before tax, £455,000 (£396,000) for year to October 31. Total payment, 6.53p gross (5.97p gross).

PREMIER CONS OILFIELDS
On group sales up from £651,000 to £888,000 in half-year to end-September, pre-tax profits rose from £99,000 to £230,000, including other income of £124,000 (£52,000).

TEX ABRASIVES
Although turnover expanded from £1.44m to £1.7m in the half-year to September 30, profits before tax fell from £181,000 to £132,000. Chairman hopes full-year's profits will not be very much lower.

DANISH BACON
Following talks between DBC and ESS-FOOD Eksport Svineslagteriernes Salgsforening, the exporting association of individual bacon factories in Denmark, two representatives of ESS-FOOD will shortly join the board of DBC.

WARNFORD INV
Pre-tax profits £671,000 (£592,000), turnover £869,000 (£731,000), for half year to June 24. Interim dividend 2.54p (1.85p). Earnings a share 3.33p (3.08p).

BTR SWISS PURCHASE
For 16m francs (about £3m) BTR has acquired Lonstroff AG, which will be renamed Lonstroff-BTR.

Bulmer to double profits

By Tony May

A sales gain of a fifth, a rise in productivity of more than a fifth, and an April price increase is the trading story from H. P. Bulmer for the six months to October 24. It meant *that pre-tax profits soared from* a restated £646,000 to £1.8m even though Bulmer simply maintained its share of a fast-growing market. As well as nearly trebling last year's interim profit, the latest figure is over 50 per cent ahead of the record £1.2m made over the whole of 1974-75, and the directors *expect the current year to* end with a doubled profit of about £2.4m. All this pushed the shares up 5p to 93p yesterday.

Turnover for the half year jumped 45 per cent to £12.8m without extra interest charges. Naturally the summer helped sales but the board, under Mr *Peter Porter, chairman*, attaches equal importance to cider's cheapness against other drinks. The recent supply agreement with Grand Metropolitan Group has also been "particularly beneficial".

Shareholders are to receive an interim dividend of 1.43p, against 1.3p gross on attributable *profits of £842,000* against £324,000, and a maximum total dividend is forecast.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN LAND & EXPLORATION COMPANY LIMITED
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF SHARE WARRANTS TO BEARER PAYMENT OF COUPON NO. 74

With reference to the notice of declaration of dividend advertised *in the Press on 12th December*, 1975 the following information is published for the guidance of holders of share warrants bearer.

The dividend of 22.5 cents per share was declared in South African currency. South African non-resident shareholders' tax at 15% cents per share will be deducted from the dividend payable in respect of all share warrant coupons leaving a net dividend of 19.125 cents per share. The dividend on bearer shares will be paid on or after 9th February, 1976, against surrender of coupon No. 74 as under:

(a) At the office of the following continental paying agents to residents of the countries concerned for payment in the appropriate local currency:
Credit du Nord et Union Parisienne,
6 & 8 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris 9e
Banque Bruxelles Lambert
24 Avenue Marnix,
Brussels 1050

In respect of coupons lodged at the office of the continental paying agent the dividend payment will be made in South African currency to an authorised dealer in exchange in the Republic of South Africa nominated by the continental paying agent. Instructions regarding disposal of the proceeds of the payment so made must be given to such authorised dealer by the continental paying agent concerned.

(b) At the London Bearer Reception Office of Charter Consolidated Limited, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1HX. Persons lodging coupons at the London Bearer Reception Office prior to 23rd January, 1976, will be paid the United Kingdom currency equivalent of the rand currency value of their dividend on 27th January, 1976. In the case of coupons lodged at the London Bearer Reception Office on or after 23rd January, 1976, the dividend will, unless the depositor requests *payment in rand to an address* in the Republic of South Africa, be remitted to the London Bearer Reception Office through an authorised dealer in Johannesburg at the then prevailing rate of exchange and the U.K. currency proceeds arising therefrom will be *paid to the depositor concerned.*

Coupons must be left for at least four clear days for examination and may be presented any weekday (Saturday excepted) between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

United Kingdom income tax will be deducted from coupons presented for payment at the London Bearer Reception Office, unless such coupons are accompanied by Inland Revenue declarations. Where such deduction is made, the net amount of the dividend will be paid in the United Kingdom currency equivalent of 14.625 cents per share arrived at as under:

	South African Currency Per Share
	cents
Amount of dividend declared	22.5
Less: South African non-resident Shareholders' tax at 15%	3.375
	19.125
Less: U.K. income tax at 30% on the gross amount of the dividend of 22.5 cents	4.500
	14.625

For and on behalf of
ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED
London Secretaries
D. H. J. Partison

London Office:
40 Holborn Viaduct,
EC1P 1AJ
15th December, 1975.

NOTE: The Company has been requested by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to state:

Under the double tax agreement between the United Kingdom and the Republic of South Africa, the South African non-resident shareholders' tax applicable to the dividend is allowable as a *credit against* the United Kingdom tax payable in respect of the dividend. The deduction of tax at the reduced rate of 30% instead of at the basic rate of 35% represents an allowance of credit at the rate of 15%.

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RAND SELECTION

Rand Selection Corporation Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

Extracts from the review by the Chairman, Mr. G. W. H. Relly

Consolidated net equity earnings for the year ended 30th September 1975 increased to R48 101 000 from R43 911 000 for the previous financial year. Earnings a share for the year amounted to 114.5 cents on the marginally increased ordinary share capital. This figure compares with 113.6 cents a share for the year ended 30th September 1974 which was adjusted to reflect that profits of the *Rand Selection Insurance Holdings Limited (RSI) group of companies* had accrued during only a part of the year.

Rand Selection's investment in the gold mining industry continues to represent the major part of its portfolio and remains its principal source of investment income in spite of the decline in the market valuations and pre-devaluation earnings of nearly all gold mines in *recent months. Despite the sharp decline of the dollar price of gold* in September this year, the average during the Corporation's latest financial year was $169 an ounce, 20 per cent above that of the *previous year.*

As a result of this relatively high average price, and sales of gold from reserves equivalent to approximately 1.5 per cent of production, *the industry's revenue increased by 9.6 per cent despite a further* fall in production of nine per cent. These results were affected only marginally by the 17.9 per cent rand devaluation on 20th September but the change in parity does mean an effective increase of nearly 22 per cent in the rand proceeds of a dollar's worth of gold which will obviously be of considerable immediate benefit to the gold mining industry. Inflationary increases in working costs and capital expenditure have, however, had a marked effect on the profitability of the mines and with the current uncertainties regarding the short-term future of the gold price and continuing cost pressures, *the efforts being made to increase productivity assume critical* importance for the future of the industry.

In assessing the present uncertain state of the gold market it has to be remembered that this is not the first time during the upward movement of the past few years that the price has suffered reversals; in each of the last three years something similar has occurred. In *contrast, however, the most recent decline was not a typical reaction* to the rapid rise of an intensely speculative market, but followed a period of relatively stable prices which were maintained after adjustment to the extraordinary upsurge of late 1974. At that time expectations related to gold ownership by United States citizens in conditions of growing alarm about world economic inflation propelled the price to new heights.

During early 1975 the world economic slowdown had an adverse effect on fabrication demand. There was, however, a strengthening of investment demand, especially for Krugerrand, at a time of a weak dollar and declining interest rates, and this was reflected by the relative firmness of the price in spite of the two U.S. gold auctions in January and June. Nevertheless, the unusual combination of a *downturn in economic activity that was steeper than had been* anticipated, and of a continually strengthening dollar after March, together with the subsequent upturn in interest rates as the battle against inflation took priority over economic growth, inevitably affected investment demand and the price weakened perceptibly in August. In these circumstances, with growing awareness of the implications of Russian grain requirements, it is hardly surprising that the apparent consensus on gold, as announced in the *International Monetary Fund Interim Committee's communiqué*, should have led to a further weakening in price, whereas previous statements of similar intent had been shrugged off by the market. It was precisely because world conditions were so depressed that contrary to the usual cynical expectations, understanding could be reached on the question of gold and IMF quotas, although a solution remains to be found on the crucial question of currency exchange rates.

It can be argued that the Interim Committee's accord represents a victory for the American anti-gold lobby, although I believe that the reverse is the case and that it is really a step towards the remobilisation of the metal as a reserve asset. Admittedly the threat of the disposal of 25 million ounces of gold and the restitution of a further 25 million ounces to member countries from IMF stocks is a potential supply factor of considerable magnitude. Against this, however, must be set the vested interests of central banks which hold gold, and the fact that they will be free, subject to certain limitations, to engage in transactions at market related prices. Furthermore, the importance of gold has been enhanced by the proviso that its sale, under the first proposal, to yield the specified profit of $2.5 billion to the tust fund formed for the benefit of the developing countries implies a theoretical floor price of approximately $142 an ounce.

There are, moreover, formidable legal and technical obstacles to be overcome before the IMF's stated objectives can be fulfilled, quite apart from the ambiguous implications of the discussions to be held next January on the issue of exchange rates.

The power of governments to exert their wills against gold has been enhanced by the prolongation of the international recession, and the consequent strength of the U.S. balance of payments. The so-called understanding on gold is itself a child of its times and it is probable that its ostensibly unfavourable implications will fade as the underlying conditions change. Indeed, recent developments have already begun to suggest that this is the case. It may, of course, take longer for the gold price to recover substantially from the present setback than it has from others. I have every confidence, however, *that its future is fundamentally secure and we may well* find, after a period, that gold's role in the international monetary system has been further strengthened.

Preoccupations with energy sources of all kinds continued during the year. Although no commercially viable oil deposits have yet been discovered in South Africa, the country is fortunately endowed *with significant coal reserves and, with the increased price of crude* oil, both domestic and export demand for coal has strengthened considerably. The coal mining industry still suffers, however, from *low profit margins*, and unless the formula for the controlled price of domestic coal is altered to permit investors to earn a sufficiently attractive return on their capital, it will be difficult to attract the additional finance needed for major expansion, modernisation and the introduction of the five-day working week. In order to create a substantial vehicle for coal mining investment that will be sufficiently powerful to attract this capital in both domestic and overseas markets, *The Vereeniging Estates Limited, Amalgamated* Collieries of South Africa Limited, The Coronation Collieries Limited, and South African Coal Estates (Witbank) Limited, are to merge *their activities*, subject to their shareholders' approval, with those of the unlisted companies Anglo Power Collieries (Proprietary) Limited, Blesbok Colliery Limited, New Largo Colliery Limited and Transvaal Coal Corporation Limited. The vehicle for the merger is Vereeniging Estates which will be renamed Ango American Coal Corporation Limited (Amcoal).

The creation of Amcoal will provide its shareholders with the opportunity to hold a long-term investment of considerable growth potential in coal resources. It has been agreed that the new company may exercise, free of consideration, the approval in principle granted to Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited by the South African Government to export 100 million tons of bituminous coal over a 20-year period. Anglo American has also *undertaken to ensure that sufficient* bituminous coal reserves in the Transvaal will be made available from present and any future reserves held by group companies to satisfy Amcoal's future requirements. Amcoal's business will thus be well balanced between the price-controlled but stable domestic market and the more profitable but volatile export activities.

Rand Selection's energy resource interests are, of course, not vested only in coal. Through Amgold and directly, the Corporation has interests in a number of uranium producers including Vaal Reefs Exploration and Mining Company Limited, Western Deep Levels Limited and President Brand Gold Mining Company Limited as well as The Afrikander Lease Limited with its uranium potential. At present projected uranium production is adequate to meet demand *until the end of this decade. In the early 1980s however, it is* predicted that demand could exceed supply and as a result, world uranium prices have already improved considerably.

The Corporation is also interested in the oil and gas industry through its investment in Minerals and Resources Corporation Limited (Minorco) and its indirect interest in Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company Limited (Hudbay). Through a subsidiary, Francana Oil and Gas Limited (Francana), Hudbay owns the controlling interest in Trend Exploration Limited (Trend), an oil and gas exploration company based in the United States, in which Minorco owns the balance of the stock. Trend has oil and gas producing properties in the United States and Canada, and in Indonesia is participating in a joint venture with the State oil company of that country. It is *conducting an active exploration programme in* the United States as well as in the North Sea, Celtic Sea, Italy, Paraguay and Cameroon. Both Francana and Western Decalta Petroleum in which Hudbay also has a substantial interest, own producing and exploratory oil and gas properties in Canada and the United States and are well placed to participate in the search for new sources of oil and gas through their North American and *international exploration programmes.*

In 1974 Rand Selection acquired Schlesinger Insurance and Institutional Holdings Limited (SII) and SII has since been renamed *Rand Selection Insurance Holdings Limited (RSI). This past year is* the first in which the Corporation's financial results include those arising from an entire year's trading by its new subsidiary. RSI's *major investments are in the life assurance field, with a 75 per cent* holding in the equity of African Eagle Life Assurance Society Limited. The African Eagle group had total assets at 30th September 1975 exceeding R417 million, compared with R355 million at 30th June 1975 and R94 million ten years ago. For the first time, combined premium and investment income this year has risen to more than R100 million annually by reaching R124 million compared with less *than R20 million in 1965.* This is a remarkable growth record and the group is well placed to continue this pattern and increase its share of the country's assurance market.

During the year negotiations were entered into with Barclays National Bank Limited (Barclays) as a result of which that company, the largest banking organisation in South Africa, acquired the entire issued share capital of Wesbank by means of an issue of shares. This transaction has resulted in Rand Selection and associates becoming Barclays' principal South African shareholders. As a result of these arrangements it was agreed that the Corporation would receive one third of any profits or make good one third of any losses which might arise in the course of the closure of Wesbank's London branch.

Analysis of general investment portfolio and general investment income

	Value of investment percentage		Investment income percentage	
	1975	1974	1975	1974
By prime source:				
Mining—Gold and uranium	58	63	63	60
Diamonds	7	6	9	10
Copper	2	2	3	6
Platinum	2	2	2	4
Coal	3	2	2	2
Other	4	3	2	2
Industrial	14	11	15	13
Property	3	2	1	—
Financial	7	4	3	3
	100	100	100	100
Geographical:				
South Africa	88	90	92	90
Rest of Africa—south of equator	4	4	4	7
Europe	3	2	2	2
North America	4	3	2	1
Australia	1	1	—	—
	100	100	100	100

The 84th annual general meeting of Rand Selection Corporation Limited will be held in Johannesburg on 23rd January, 1976 at 15h00. Copies of this review and the Annual Report and Accounts are obtainable from the London office of the company at 40 Holborn Viaduct, EC1P 1AJ or the office of the transfer secretaries, Charter Consolidated Limited, P.O. Box 102, Charter House, Park Street, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8EQ

The Clydesdale Investment Company Limited

	1975	1974
Asset value per share	65.5p	40.5p
Total assets	£45,615,339	£34,929,445
Revenue available for ordinary shareholders	£753,064	£835,285
Ordinary dividend per share — nterim	0.50p	0.4375p
final	0.85p	1.0625p
Capitalisation issue in B ordinary shares	2.0672%	3.88391%

Mr. J. A. Lumsden covered the following points in his review of the year to 30th September 1975.

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND POLICY
Earnings per ordinary share were 1.49p against 1.67p last year and the board have recommended total dividends for the year of 1.35p. Last year 1.5p per share was paid but it was stated that 0.25p of this should be regarded as exceptional. *The board expect to recommend* total dividends for the current year of not less than the total of 1.35p even if large conversions of B shares take place in March.
Net assets at the year end of £40,647,212 show an increase of 57.5% over the previous year, and the net asset value per ordinary and B ordinary share increased from 40½p to 65½p. This restored a considerable part of the drastic fall from 88p to 40½p in net asset value per share which had taken place in the previous year.

PORTFOLIO
Early in 1975 substantial sums were re—committed to the equity market, particularly overseas, so that by 30th September equity holdings had increased to 97.1% of net assets. No major changes have taken place in the geographical spread of the equity portfolio.

OUTLOOK
There are signs of increased economic activity in the USA. Interest rates have been tending downward and there is unused industrial capacity, so it should be possible for economic activity to expand considerably without pushing inflation rates up again. In the UK any recovery will have to come more slowly, but we should obtain some benefit from any increase in world economic recovery. In these circumstances we think it right to be fully invested in equities with a modest element of gearing.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The annual general meeting will be held on Monday 12th January 1976 at 175 West George Street, Glasgow G2 2LD.

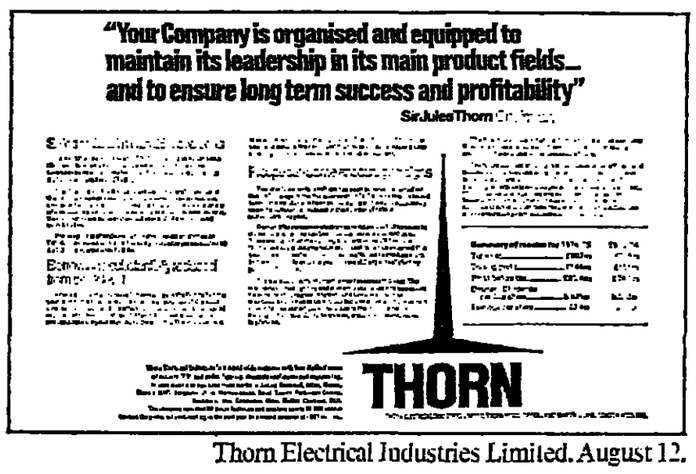
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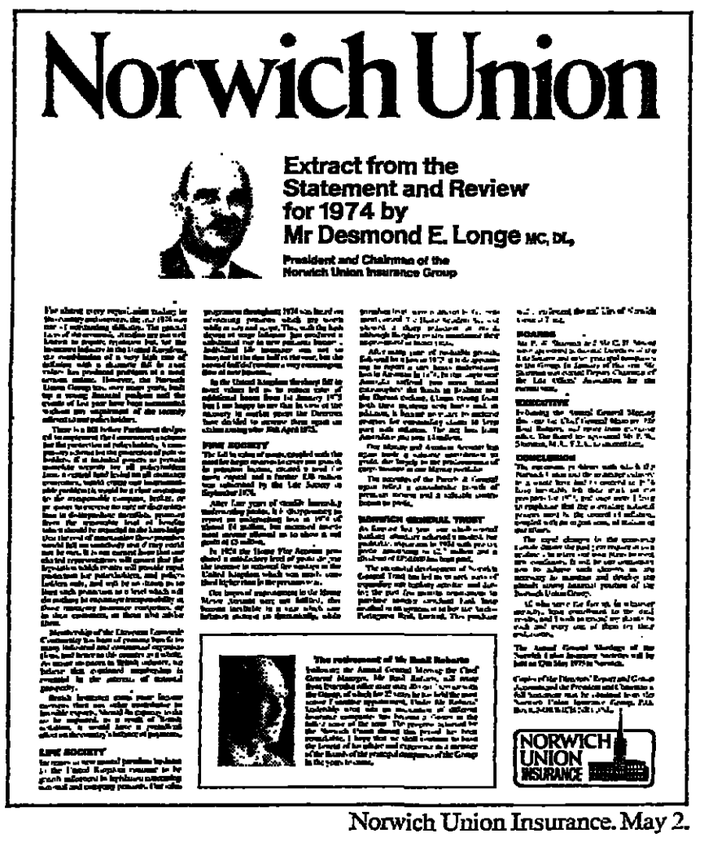
Your company is judged by the company it keeps.



The British Petroleum Company Limited. April 4.



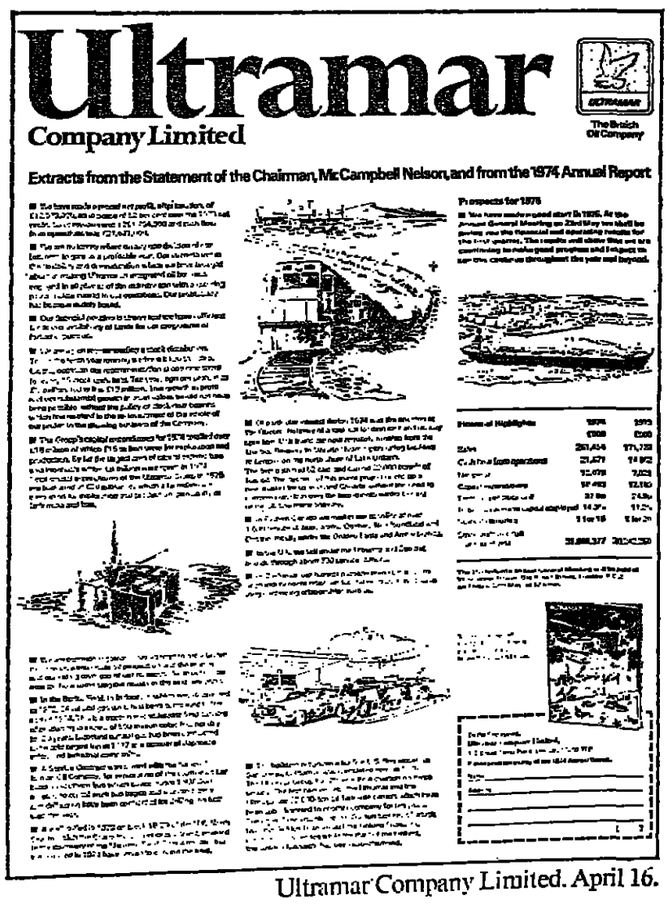
Thorn Electrical Industries Limited. August 12.



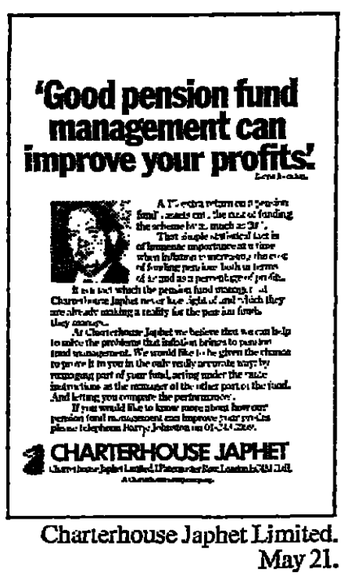
Norwich Union Insurance. May 2.



Arbuthnot Securities Limited. November 1.



Ultramar Company Limited. April 16.



Charterhouse Japhet Limited. May 21.



Standard Chartered Bank Limited. October 8.



Capper-Neill Limited. June 11.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stenhouse dip but total dividend raised

In line with the interim forecast, the pre-tax profits of Glasgow-based Stenhouse Holdings in year to September 30 did not match the previous year's record. They were £5.09m, against £5.34m but shareholders collect total dividend of 5.08p gross compared with 4.65p.

The preliminary statement points out that sustained progress in the international insurance *broking interests is a* highlight of the figures. These provided £4.6m of the total pre-tax profit. *Industrial profits* held up reasonably in tough going.

The insurance broking interests' pre-tax profits rose from £7.62m to £8.44m and the proportion attributable to Stenhouse (54.47 per cent) climbed from £4.15m to £4.6m.

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank ..	11%
First London Secs	11%
C. Hoare & Co ..	*11%
Lloyds Bank	11%
Midland Bank	11%
Nat Westminster ..	11%
Rossminster Acc's	11%
Shenley Trust	12½%
20th Century Bank	12½%
Williams & Glyn's	11%

* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under, 7%, up to £25,000, 7¼%, over £25,000, 8¼%.

ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF PREFERRED STOCK WARRANTS TO BEARER

PAYMENT OF COUPON NO. 94

With reference to the notice of declaration of dividend advertised in the Press on 6th December, 1975, the following information is published for the guidance of holders of stock warrants to bearer.

The dividend of 3 per cent (3 cents) was declared in South African currency. South African non-resident shareholders' tax at 0.37430 cents per unit of stock will be deducted from the dividend payable in respect of all stock warrant coupons leaving a net dividend of 2.62570 cents per unit of stock. The dividend on bearer stock will be paid on or after 23rd January, 1976, against surrender of coupon No. 94, detached from the stock warrants to bearer as follows:

(a) At the office of the following continental paying agent in the currency of the country concerned for the account of the holder:

Crédit du Nord et Union Parisienne,
6 & 8 Boulevard Haussmann,
Paris 9e

In respect of coupons lodged at the office of the continental paying agent the dividend payment will be made in South African currency to an authorised dealer in exchange in the Republic of South Africa nominated by the continental paying agent. Instructions regarding disposal of the proceeds of the payment so made must be given to such authorised dealer by the continental paying agent concerned.

(b) At the London Bearer Reception Office of Charter Consolidated Limited, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1HX. *Persons lodging* coupons at the London Bearer Reception Office prior to 9th January, 1976, will be paid the United Kingdom currency equivalent of the rand currency value of their dividend on 13th January, 1976. In the case of coupons lodged at the London Bearer Reception Office on or after 9th January, 1976, the dividend will, unless the *depositor requests payment in* rand to an address in the Republic of South Africa, be remitted to the London Bearer *Reception Office through an* authorised dealer in Johannesburg at the then prevailing rate of exchange and the U.K. currency proceeds arising therefrom will be paid to the depositor concerned.

Coupons must be left for at least four clear days for examination and may be presented any weekday (Saturday excepted) between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

United Kingdom income tax will be deducted from coupons paid in United Kingdom currency at the London Bearer Reception Office, unless such coupons are accompanied by Inland Revenue declarations. Where such deduction is made, the net amount of the dividend will be the United Kingdom currency equivalent of 1.95 cents per unit of stock in terms of sub-paragraph (b) above arrived at as under:—

	South African Currency Per Unit of Stock cents
Amount of dividend declared	3
Less: South African non-*resident Shareholders'* tax at 12.4767%	0.37430
	2.62570
Less: U.K. income tax at 22.5233% on the gross amount of the dividend of 3 cents	0.67570
	1.9500

For and on behalf of
ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED
D. H. J. Pattison

London Office:
40 Holborn Viaduct,
EC1P 1AJ.

19th December, 1975.

NOTE: The Company has been requested by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to state:

Under the double tax agreement between the United Kingdom and the Republic of South Africa, the South African non-resident shareholders' tax applicable to the dividend is allowable as a credit against the United Kingdom tax payable in respect of the dividend. The deduction of tax at the reduced rate of 22.5233% instead of at the basic rate of 35% represents an allowance of credit at the rate of 12.4767%.

Commodities

COPPER advanced by £10 for both cash wire bars and three months.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £576-77 a metric ton; three months, £596.50-97.00. Sales, 3,875 tons. Cash cathodes, £563-64; three months, £583.50-84.00. Sales, 75 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £570.50-71.00; three months, £590.50-91.00. Settlement, £571. Sales, 8,125 tons. Cash cathodes, £558-59; three months, £578.78.50. Settlement, £559. Sales, 150 tons.

SILVER was relatively steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 200.60p a troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 406); three months, 206.10p (412.0c); six months, 212p (420.2c); one-year, 223.10p (438.5c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 200.5-200.7p; three months, 206.4-06.5p; seven months, 214.2-14.7p. Sales, 65 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 201.2-01.4p; three months, 207-07.2p; seven months, 215-15.5p. Settlement 201.4p. Sales, 54 lots.

TIN: Standard cash was £3.50 higher. Three months was £2.50 lower.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £3,070-78 a metric ton; three months, £3,155-58. Sales, 40 tons. High grade. Cash, £3,075-78; three months, £3,155-58. Sales, 40 tons. Morning.—Standard cash, £3,070-72; three months, £3,158-60. Settlement, £3,072. Sales, 635 tons (mainly carries). High grade, cash, £3,070-72; three months, £3,158-60. Settlement, £3,072. Sales, nil tons. Singapore tin ex-works, SM974 a picul.

LEAD was about £2 higher for both cash and three months.—Afternoon.—Cash, £166.25-66.75 a metric ton; three months, £173.75-74.00. Sales, 850 tons. Morning.—Cash, £166-66.50; three months, £173.50-73.75. Settlement, £166.50. Sales, 3,925 tons.

ZINC was quiet and steady. Afternoon.—Cash, £341-41.50 a metric ton; three months, £355.25-55.50. Sales, 450 tons. Morning.—Cash, £341.25-41.50; three months, £355-55.25. Settlement, £341.50. Sales, 4,525 tons. Producers' price, £390 a metric ton. All afternoon metal prices are unofficial.

PLATINUM was 10p lower at £70.70 ($143) a troy ounce.

RUBBER was steady.—Jan, 36.75-37p per kilo; Feb, 37.15-50p; Jan-March, 37.40-65p; April-June, 38.60-70p; July-Sept, 39.80-85p; Oct-Dec, 40.85-90p; Jan-March, 41.85-90p; April-June, 42.80-70p; July-Sept, 42.80-45.40.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were quietly steady. Spot, 36-37. Cifs, Jan, 34.60-34.70; Feb, 35.25-35.50.

COFFEE: Robusta futures advanced strongly under speculative buying. Nearby January put on £16.50 and the March position advanced by £17.

ROBUSTAS.—Jan, £778-780 per metric ton; March, £790-791; May, £804-805; July, £811-815; Sept, £817-818; Nov, £822-825; Jan, £830-835. Sales: 1,943 lots including 4 options.

ARABICAS were steadier.—Dec, $98-99 per 50 kilos; Feb, $96.40-96.50; April, $97.15-97.20; June, $97.00-97.70; Aug, $98.20-98.50; Oct, $98.60-99; Dec, $99-102. Sales: 46 lots.

COCOA: Reports of manufacturer interest aided the market. Spot December advanced by £18.50 and March futures were £17.75 stronger. Dec, £717-00 per metric ton; March, £725-30; May, £704-05; July, £690-91; Sept, £675.5-76; Dec, £660-61. March, £644-49. Sales: 3,350 lots. ICO prices: daily, 61.61c; 15-day average, 57.75c; 22-day average, 56.97c (US cents per lb).

SUGAR futures were firmer.—The London daily prices were "raws" £1.00 down; "whites" £177 unchanged. March, £163.50-63.75 per long ton; May, £163.20-64; Aug, £164.25-64.50; Oct, £164.50-65.25; Dec, £164.50-65.25; March, £164.05-65.50; May, £164.95-65.20. Sales, 1,689 lots. ISA prices, 13.74c; 17-day average, 12.54c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was quietly steady. Dec, £91.30-95.00 per metric ton; Feb, £85.40-85.50; April, £84.20-84.30; June, £85.10-84.20; Aug, £86-86.20; Oct, £86.70-86.60. Sales, 81 lots.

WOOL.—Greasy futures were steady. Dec, 180-190p per kilo; March, 172-176p; May, 177-79p; July, 177.5-80.0p; Oct, 178-80.5p; Dec, 181-5.5p; March, 181.5-83.5p; May, 182-86p. Sales, 5 lots.

JUTE was quiet.—Bangladesh white "C" grade, Dec-Jan, £213 per long ton. "D" grade, Dec-Jan, £136. Calcutta was steady.—Indian, Jan, Rs460 per bale of 400lb. Dundee Daisee, Jan, Rs450.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—A fair trading interest was reported for nearby transhipment maize but actual business remained slow. Small parcels of optional sorghum traded to west coast ports for early new year shipments.

WHEAT.—US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: March, £98.20; April, £89.60 direct Tilbury: April/early May, £94.55; May, £94.10; June, £94.55; July, £94.90 trans-shipment east coast. EEC feed: Dec, £65.50; Jan, £64.60 east coast.

MAIZE.—No 3 yellow American-French: Dec, £66.25; Jan, £66.50; Feb, £66.75 trans-shipment east coast. South African white: Jan, £68.25; Feb, £69.30; March, £69.75 UK. South African yellow: Jan, £67.35; Feb, £67.50; March, £67.75 UK.

BARLEY.—EEC feed: Dec, £64.50; Jan, £65 west coast. All per long ton cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was steady: Jan, £62.50; March, £64.35; May, £66.65; Sept, £64.75; Nov, £66.70. WHEAT was steady: Jan, £63.60; March, £65.80; May, £67.50; Sept, £65.25; Nov, £67.40.

MARK LANE: Trading remained thin throughout the market and values were hardly changed. Jan deliveries of milling wheat traded to the London area at £65.50 and April at £68, while denaturable wheat made £6? for Jan and £66 staging for Feb deliveries, to various destinations. The following are average sellers quotations long ton for delivery London area. Wheat milling: Jan £66, Jan/March £67. Denaturable: Jan £65, Jan March £66. Barley feed: Jan March £65.

Home-grown Cereal Authority's location ex-farm spot prices.—

	Soft milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
South Lincoln	£62.65	£62.15	£61.65
Wiltshire	—	£62.70	£61.05

MEAT commission: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 18.—UK: Cattle £25.38 per live cwt (+0.67). Sheep 59.2p per lb BDCW (+0.2). Pigs £5.27 per score (+0.35). **ENGLAND AND WALES:** Cattle numbers down 20.9 per cent, average price £25.02 (+0.65). Sheep numbers down 27.6 per cent, average price 59.4p (+0.2). Pig numbers down 12 per cent, average price £5.21 (+0.35). **SCOTLAND:** Cattle numbers up 6? per cent, average price £24.01 (+0.58). Sheep numbers down 44.3 per cent, average price 58.0p (+0.3). pigs nil.

Foreign Exchange

The dollar showed scattered losses in subdued European currency trading yesterday. Limited transfers of oil money, possibly linked with regular monthly payments to Saudi Arabia, together with the latest Bundesbank assessment of German export prospects appeared to be the main stimulus for European currency trading.

The dollar slipped to 2.6235/50 marks from 2.6280/95 overnight after touching 2.6215 briefly.

Sterling closed unchanged against the dollar at $2.0220. Its depreciation rate weakened to 30.1 per cent (overnight 30.0).

Limited British economic measures on Wednesday had little exchange rate impact, dealers said.

Gold fell 50 cents to close at $133.75.

Spot Position of Sterling

[illegible]

Effective depreciation since Dec 21, 1971, up 30.1 per cent.

Forward Levels

[illegible]

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $139.25 (an ounce); pm, [illegible]

Krugerrand: [illegible]

Sovereigns: [illegible]

AEG sells Osram stake

The loss-ridden West German electrical group AEG-Telefunken, is to sell its 37.7 per cent stake in the light bulb manufacturer Osram GMBH to Siemens AG, after hearing that the Federal Cartel office in West Berlin has no objections to the deal. The reported price is DM93m (£17.5m). AEG said the transaction will give Siemens a 78.6 per cent stake in Osram, with General Electric of the United States holding the remaining 21.4 per cent.

Bluemel fades

In a difficult year, to September 27, Mr B. Ditcham, chairman of Bluemel Bros, the cycle *and motor accessories specialists, is satisfied by the group's* performance. Pre-tax profits *finished 25 per cent higher at* £255,000 (after a second-half slackening) on sales of £3.35m *(£3.29m).*

BATLEYS RAISE INTERIM

Sales up from £9.71m to £12.77m are reported by Huddersfield-based cash and carry company, Batleys of Yorkshire, for half year. Pre-tax profit more than doubled to £195,000. Interim payment is raised from 1.04p gross to 1.23p gross. *Shares rose by 2p to 48p.*

Big Danae Inv swap

London Trust and other investment trusts have bought 2.1m income shares in Danae Investment Trust, representing about 30 per cent of the issued capital in that class and 15 per cent of the voting rights. The shares were bought from clients and associates of Ionian Bank at 19p.

Discount market

Day-to-day credit proved to be *extremely short and the Bank of* England assisted the market on a large scale before books could be ruled off at the end of the day.

The scale of help was possibly a little greater than underlying factors suggested the market required.

Money was very slow to move, and for most of the day rates held *in the region of 10⅞ or 11 per cent.* Final balances were taken at 10½ or 10¼ per cent; 7-day loans 10¾ to 10¼.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 11¼%

[illegible]

Recent Issues

[illegible]

A Monk double up

Interpreted by Mr F. H. Sullivan, chairman, as reflecting a return to more normal trading conditions, A. Monk & Co, civil engineering, etc, presents interim profits to August 31 more than doubled *to £324,000. Still more encouraging is that the improved trend should continue through the full year to February 28, 1976.*

Wall Street

New York, Dec 18.—The New York stock market closed higher apparently on hopes a tax cut *compromise can still be worked* out between Congress and the President.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 5.32 to 852.09. Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by about 820 to about 600. Volume was 18,040,000 shares, compared with 16,560,000 yesterday.

Merck dropped 27⅛ to 69⅝. The issue fell 3⅛ yesterday after the company announced its earnings growth has slowed in the fourth quarter.

F. W. Woolworth, which said it is having its best Christmas season in many years, rose ⅞ to 22¼. Sherwin-Williams fell 1⅞ to 35.

	Dec 18	Dec 17
Allied Chem	35⅛	32½
Allied Stores	46	46
Allied Supermkt	3½	3½
Allis Chalmers	10⅞	10⅞
Alcoa	39⅛	38⅛
Amax Inc	45⅛	45⅞
Amerada Hess	14⅞	14⅛
Am Airlines	8⅝	8⅝
Am Brands	37⅛	36⅝
Am Broadcast	20	19⅞
Am Can	31⅝	32⅛
Am Cyanamid	24⅛	23⅞
Am Elec Power	20⅝	20½
Am Home	32⅞	32⅝
Am Motors	5⅛	5⅛
Am Nat Gas	32⅛	32⅝
Am Standard	17⅛	16
Am Telephone	51	50⅞
AMF Inc	18½	18⅛
Anaconda	17⅛	17⅛
Armco Steel	29⅝	29⅝
Asarco	12⅞	12⅝
Ashland Oil	17⅜	18⅛
Atlantic Richfield	88⅝	88½
Avco	4⅛	4⅛
Avon Products	34⅝	34⅛
Babcock & Wcox	19	19⅛
Bankers Tst NY	28⅛	27⅞
Bank of America	42⅛h	42⅛h
Bank of NY	27⅛	27⅛
Beatrice Foods	23⅞	23⅞
Bell & Howell	15⅝	14⅞
Bendix	43	42⅞
Bethlehem Steel	32⅜	32⅝
Boeing	24⅝	24⅛
Boise Cascade	22⅞	23
Borden	26⅛	26½
Borg Warner	20⅛	20⅝
Bristol Myers	71⅞	71⅞
BP	11⅛	11⅛
Budd	9⅝	10½
Burlington Ind	20	20⅝
Burlington Nthn	31	31
Burroughs	85⅛	83⅞
Campbell Soup	32⅞	33
Canadian Pacific	13⅞	13⅞
Caterpillar	68⅞	68⅛
Celanese	44⅝	43⅞
Central Soya	15⅞	15⅞
Charter NY	20⅞	20⅝
Chase Manhat	27⅛	26
Chem Bank NY	27⅞	27⅞
Chesapeake Ohio	32⅛	32⅞
Chrysler	10	10
Citicorp	27⅝	27⅞
Cities Service	39⅛	39⅞
Clark Equip	33⅞	33⅞
Coca Cola	83⅞	84⅝
Colgate	28⅝	29⅝
CBS	45⅛	45
Columbia Gas	25⅞	25⅞
Combustion Eng	30⅝	30⅝
Comwlth Edison	30	29⅞
Cons Edison	13	13⅛
Cons Foods	21⅝	20⅞
Cons Power	16⅛	16⅛
Continental Can	27⅛	27⅞
Continental Oil	58⅛	59⅞
Control Data	17⅛	17⅝
Corning Glass	45⅛	44
CPC Intnl	41⅛	42⅛
Crane	40⅞	44⅛
Crocker Int	20	20⅛
Crown Zeller	35	35⅛
Dart Ind	28⅛	27
Deere	48⅛	49⅞
Del Monte	23⅞	23⅛
Delta Air	34⅛	34⅛
Detroit Edison	13⅛	13
Disney	48⅛	48⅛
Dow Chemical	91½	93⅛
Dresser Ind	58⅛	57⅞
Duke Power	18⅛	18½
Du Pont	122⅛	124⅞
Eastern Air	3⅞	3⅞
Eastman Kodak	106⅛	106⅞
Eaton Corp	28⅛	28⅛
El Paso Nat Gas	11⅛	11⅞
Equitable Life	17⅞	17⅞
Esmark	31	31
Evans P. D.	4⅛	4⅛
Exxon Corp	87⅞	87⅛
Fed Dept Stores	52⅛	52⅛
Firestone	22⅛	22⅛
Fst Chicago	16½	16
Fst Nat Boston	22⅛	21⅞
Fst Penn Corp	14⅛	14⅛
Ford	44⅛	43⅞
GAF Corp	10⅛	10⅛
Gamble Skogmo	21⅝	21⅝
Gen Dynamics	39⅛	38⅛
Gen Electric	45⅛	45⅛
Gen Foods	27½	27⅛
Gen Instrument	7⅞	7⅞
Gen Mills	30⅛	30
Gen Motors	56⅛	57⅞
Gen Pub Util NY	16⅛	16⅛
Gen Tel Elec	25	24⅛
Gen Tire	17⅞	17½
Genesco	5	5
Georgia Pacific	42⅞	42⅞
Getty Oil	161	159⅛
Gillette	33⅛	33
Goodrich	17⅛	17⅞
Goodyear	20⅝	20⅝
Gould Inc	24⅛	24⅛
Grace	23⅛	23⅛
Gt Atlntc & Pacific	10⅛	10⅝
Greyhound	12⅝	12⅞
Grumman Corp	13⅛	13⅛
Gulf Oil	20⅛	20⅞
Gulf & West	20⅛	20⅞
Heinz H. J.	48⅞	49
Hercules	27⅛	27⅞
Honeywell	31⅞	30⅛
IC Inds	15⅛	15
Ingersoll	69⅛	69⅞
Inland Steel	41⅝	41⅞
IBM	211½	210⅞
Int Harvester	22⅝	22
Int Nickel	22⅛	22
Int Paper	55	55⅛
Int Tel Tel	21⅛	21⅞
Jewel Co	20⅛	20⅞
Jim Walter	25⅛	25⅛
Johns-Manville	23	23
Johnson & Johns	90⅞	90⅞
Kaiser Alumin	24⅛	24⅛
Kennecott	30⅝	30⅛
Kerr McGee	67⅛	67⅞
Kimberly Clark	36⅛	36⅞
Kraftco Corp	41⅝	42⅛
Kresge SS	29⅞	29⅞
Kroger	17⅞	17⅛
Ling Myer	29⅞	29⅝
LTV	9⅛	9⅛
Litton	6⅛	6⅛
Lockheed	7⅛	7⅛
Lucky Stores	16½	16⅞
Manuf Hanover	29⅛	29⅞
Mapco	39⅛	39⅞
Marathon Oil	41⅞	42
Marcor Inc	24⅛	24⅛
Marine Midland	10⅛	10⅞
Martin Marietta	16⅝	16⅛
McDonnell	15⅞	15⅞
Mead	17⅛	17⅛
Merck	69⅝	77⅛
Minnesota Mng	54⅞	56⅞
Mobil Oil	46	45⅞
Monsanto	77⅛	76⅛
Morgan J. P.	50⅝	49⅞
Motorola	39⅞	39⅞
NCR Corp	27⅛	27⅛
NL Industries	15⅛	15⅛
Nabisco	41	40
Nat Distillers	15⅞	15⅞
Nat Steel	37⅛	38
Norfolk West	64⅛	63⅞
NW Bancorp	43⅛	43⅞
Norton Simon	23⅛	22⅛
Occidental Pet	13⅛	13⅛
Ogden	14⅛	14⅛
Olin Corp	25⅛	25⅛
Otis Elevator	33⅛	33⅛
Owens-Illinois	50⅛	49⅛
Pacific Gas Elec	20⅛	20⅛
Pan Am	5⅛	5⅛
Penn Central	1⅛	1⅛
Penney J. C.	50	49⅞
Pennzoil	19	18⅞
Pepsico	71⅛	71⅛
Pet Inc	22⅛	22⅛
Pfizer	26⅛	26⅛
Phelps Dodge	35⅛	35⅛
Philip Morris	52⅛	52⅛
Phillips Petrol	52	52
Polaroid	30⅛	30⅛
PPG Ind	26⅛	26⅛
Proctor Gamble	92⅛	91
Pub Ser El & Gas	17⅛	17⅛
Pullman	27⅛	23
Rapid American	5⅛	5
Raytheon	46⅛	44⅛
RCA Corp	19⅛	
Republic Steel	27⅛	
Reynolds Ind	59⅛	
Reynolds Metal	24⅛	
Rockwell Int	23	
Royal Dutch	38⅛	
Safeways	43⅛	
St Regis Paper	35⅛	
Santa Fe Ind	30⅛	
SCM	17⅛	
Schlumberger	73⅛	
Scott Paper	17⅛	
Seaboard Coast	30	
Seagram	27	
Sears Roebuck	67⅛	
Shell Oil	46⅛	
Shell Trans	25⅛	
Signal Co	14⅛	
Singer	6⅛	
Sony	6⅛	
Sth Cal Edison	23⅛	
Southern Pacific	28⅛	
Southern Rly	48⅛	
Sperry Rand	39⅛	
Squibb	33⅛	
Std Brands	26⅛	
Std Oil California	27⅛	
Std Oil Indiana	42⅛	
Std Oil Ohio	70⅛	
Sterling Drug	18⅛	
Stevens J. P.	25⅛	
Stude Worth	35⅛	
Sunbeam Corp	16⅛	
Sund-strand	18⅛	
Sun Oil	26⅛	
Teledyne	52⅛	
Tenneco	22⅛	
Texaco	22⅛	
Texas East Trans	33⅛	
Texas Inst	94	
Texas Utilities	17⅛	
Textron	20⅛	
TWA	6⅛	
Travelers Corp	24⅛	
TRW Inc	23⅛	
UAL Inc	20⅛	
Unilever Ltd	35⅛	
Unilever NV	47⅛	
Uniroyal	7⅛	
Union Bancorp	6	
Union Carbide	60⅛	
Union Oil Calif	42⅛	
Un Pacific Corp	71	
Uniroyal	7	
United Brands	5	
Utd Merch & Man	18⅛	
US Industries	7⅛	
US Steel	66	
Utd Technol	45⅛	
Wachovia	13	
Warner Comm	11⅛	
Warner Lambert	37⅛	
Wells Fargo	21⅛	
West'n Bancorp	23⅛	
Westinghse Elec	13⅛	
Weyerhauser	37⅛	
Whirlpool	23⅛	
White Motor	7⅛	
Woolworth	22⅛	
Xerox Corp	49⅛	
Zenith	24⅛	

Canadian Prices

Abitibi	8⅛
Alcan Alumin	19⅛
Algoma Steel	24⅛
Bell Telephone	42⅛
Cominco	32⅛
Cons Bathurst	32⅛
Falconbridge	27⅛
Gulf Oil	25
Hawker Sid Can	6.50
Hudson Bay Mln	15⅛
Hudson Bay Oil	34⅛
Imasco	27⅛
Imperial Oil	24⅛
Int Pipe	11⅛
Mass-Ferguson	19⅛
Royal Trust	21
Seagram	27⅛
Steel Walker	7⅛
Steel Co	26⅛
Walker Hiram	29⅛
WCT	22⅛

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market Closed. n New Issue. p Stock Split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, $2.0215 ($2.0218); three months, $1.9968 ($1.9981); *Canadian dollar*, 98.59c (98.71c).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was down .25 to 295.13. The futures index was down 4.70 to 283.53. *The Dow Jones averages.*—Industrials, 852.09 (846.27); transportation, 167.91 (166.09); utilities, 81.32; 65 stocks, 258.52 (257.4). New York Stock Exchange index, 47.15 (46.97); industrials, 52.16; transportation, 31.72 (31.4); utilities, 32.94 (32.77); financial, 44.07 (43.70).

Coffee closes 1.90c up

New York, Dec 18.—**COFFEE** futures in "C" contract were firm with gains of 1.90 to 1.35 cents.—Dec, 87.50-5.00c; March, 87.00-30c; May, 87.65c; July, 88.20c; Sept, 88.90-95c; Dec, 89.60-40c.

COCOA.—Futures closed steady on sales of 1,226 lots. March, 64.20c; May, 61.35c; July, 59.75c; Sept, 57.25c; Dec, 56.20c; March, 55.10c; May, unquoted. Spots: Ghana 77c, Bahia, 70¼c.

SUGAR.—World sugar futures in No 11 contract were little net changed at the close on mixed dealings.—Jan, 13.56c, nominal; March, 13.65-60c; May, 13.60-55c; July, 13.61c; Sept, 13.60c; Oct, 13.65-62c; March, 13.64-60c; May, 13.30c, nominal. Spot, 13.80c, up 5.

COTTON: Futures regained almost a half of an *early one-cent loss* to close with the nearby months an average half-cent down on the day. March, 57.25-55c; May, 59.65c; July, 60.40c; Oct, 58.00-20c; Dec, 56.70c; March, 57.00-10c; May, 57.15-40c.

SILVER: Futures losses ranged from 0.20 to 1.20 cents. Dec, 403.20c; Jan, 405.80c; Feb, 408.50c; March, 411.50c; May, 417.90c; July, 424.40c; Sept, 430.90c; Dec, 441.00c; Jan, 444.30c; March, 451.00c. Handy and Harman, $404 (previous $409). Handy and Harman of Canada, Can$4.100 (previous Can$4.163).

GOLD.—Futures closed mostly slightly lower. On the Comex final settlement prices showed all contracts down 10 cents. IMM futures were mixed, ranging from $1 lower to 15 cents higher. NY COMEX.—Dec, $138.50; Jan, $138.80; Feb, $139.10; April, $140.00; June, $141.70; Aug, $143.20; Oct, $144.80; Dec, $146.50; Feb, $148.20; April, $149.90. CHICAGO IMM.—Dec, $138.60 asked; March, $139.60-139.50; June, $141.60; Sept, $144.10 asked; Dec, $146.50; March, $149.20 asked.

COPPER.—Futures closed steady between 110 and 150 points up on 3,353 lots. Dec, 55.20c; Jan, 55.30c; Feb, 55.70c; March, 56.10c; May, 57.10c; July, 58.10c; Sept, 59.00c; Dec, 60.10c; Jan, 60.50c.

WOOL.—Futures closed unchanged to 0.20 cent up. *There was one sale, in the nearby March at 160.0.* Closing prices in Crossbreds also ranged from unchanged to 0.20 cent up for the day, but there were no sales. GREASE WOOL.—Spot, 170.0c nominal. March, 162.0-5.0c; May, 163.5-64.0c; July, 157.0-60.0c; Oct, 157.0-60.0c; Dec, 157.0-61.0c; March, 154.0-62.5c; May, 151.0c bid. CROSSBRED.—Spot, 95.5c bid. March, 95.0-8.0c; May, 95.0-8.0c; July, 93.5-8.0c; Oct, 89.0-98.0c; Dec, 89.0-99.0c; March, 86.0c bid; May, 85.0c bid.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS.—Meal ended with losses of $0.60 to $1.70 a ton. Oil showed declines of 0.33 to 0.07 cents a lb. SOYABEANS.—Jan, 450⅛-51; March, 462-60c; May, 469-68⅝c; July, 478-79c; Aug, 483¼c; Sept, 502¼-01c. SOYABEAN MEAL.—Dec, $129.00-128.50; Jan, $127.50-7.70; March, $131.20-1.60. SOYABEAN OIL.—Dec, 15.15-15.25c; Jan, 16.13-20c; March, 16.20-25c; May, 16.40c; July, 16.60c; Aug, 16.60-65c; Sept, 16.70-60c; Oct, 16.75-80c; Dec, 16.80-85c. SOYABEAN MEAL (New).—March, $129.50-6.00; May, $129.60-0.50; July, $132.00-2.70; Aug, $134.00; Sept, $134.00-5.00; Oct, $136.00-6.50; Dec, $139.00.

CHICAGO GRAINS. WHEAT: Dec, 325-325¼, off 3¼ to 5 cents. 1976: March, 335¼-339 up 1¼ to 1½c; May, 341¼ up ¼ to ¾c; July, 339-341¼, 1¼ to 1c; Sept, 353¾, up 1¼c. CORN: Dec, 253-254¼, off 1 to 2 cents. 1976: March, 264¼-264, unchanged to off 2 cents; May, 269¼, off ½ to ¾c; July, 272¼, off 1¼c; Sept, 268¼, off 2¼c; Dec, 263, off ½c.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

	Bid	Offer
$ STRAIGHTS		
ADC 10¼ 1981	[illegible]	103¼
Air France 9¼ 1982	101½	102½
Arlington 8¼ 1988	[illegible]	[illegible]
ARBN 9¼ 1980	100¼	101¼
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barclays Bank 9½ 1982	[illegible]	100¼
BICC 9½ 1982	100¼	101
British Land Prop 9⅞ 1991	102½	103½
British Steel Corp 8¼ 1989	88	89
Burlington 7¼ 1987	88¼	89¼
Carrier 8 1987	89¼	90¼
CECA 9¼ 1990	[illegible]	100
Chevron 7 1980	[illegible]	[illegible]
Conoco 7 1980	[illegible]	[illegible]
Conoco 8 1986	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cons Foods 7¼ 1991	87	88
CSR 9¼ 1980	100¼	101¼
Curacao Tokyo 8¼ 1988	[illegible]	[illegible]
Curacao Tokyo 10¼ 1981	101¼	102¼
Cutler Hammer 8 1987	92	93
Dana 8 1987	90¼	91¼
Denmark Kingdom 7¼ 1980	84	85
DSM 9¼ 1980	101	102
EIB 9 1980	101¼	102¼
EIB 9¼ 1985	101¼	102¼
Escom 9¼ 1989	90	92
Escom 10¼ 1985	99¼	100¼
Escom Floating Rate 1982	97	98
First Chicago 7 1980	94	95
GATX 8¼ 1987	90¼	91¼
Gould 9¼ 1985	99¼	100¼
Gurdian Royal 8 1987	76	79
Gulf and Western 9¼ 1980	101¼	102¼
ICI 7¼ 1992	84	86
International Util 8¼ 1983	96¼	97¼
Motorola 8 1987	93¼	94¼
National Coal Board 8¼ 1988	86	89
New Zealand 9 1980	101¼	102¼
New Zealand 9¼ 1982	101¼	102¼
Nippon Fudosan 10¼ 1980	103	105
Nippon Steel 9¼ 1980	99¼	100¼
NA Rockwell 8¼ 1987	90	91
Occidental 10 1981	99	100
Ontario Hydro 1980	101¼	102¼
Pacific Lighting 8 1982	96¼	97¼
Pacific Lighting 9¼ 1981	100	101
Pennwalt 8 1987	92¼	93¼
Ralston Purina 7¼ 1987	92	95
Scanraff 7¼ 1990	90¼	91¼
Scanraff 8¼ 1988	98	99
Shell 7¼ 1987	92¼	93¼
Singer 11 1977	96	99
Skandinaviska 10¼ 1981	104	105
Standard Oil 8¼ 1980	101	102
Standard Oil 8¼ 1988	98¼	99¼
Standard Oil 8¼ 1988	99¼	100¼
Statsgoratag 9¼ 1980	100¼	101¼
Sybron 8 1987	90¼	91¼
Tenneco 7¼ 1987	87¼	88¼
Textron 7¼ 1987	87	88
Transocean Gulf 7¼ 1987	94¼	95¼
Union Oil 7¼ 1987	92	93
Williams & Glyns 1987	81	83
DM BONDS		
CFP 8¼ 1985	100	101
Denmark 9¼ 1989	100¼	101¼
ICI 8¼ 1983	97¼	98¼
Mexico 9 1982	99	100
National Westminster 8 1988	92¼	93¼
Sumitomo Metal Inds 8¼ 1983	100	101
Sun Int Fin 7¼ 1988	92	93
$ CONVERTIBLES		
AMF 5 1987	62	64
American Express 4¼ 1987	84	86
Beatrice Foods 4¼ 1992	96	97
Beatrice Foods 6¼ 1991	107	109
Beatrice Foods 4¼ 1998	103	105
Borden 5 1992	92	94
Borden 6¼ 1991	103	104
Broadway Hale 4¼ 1987	78	80
Carnation 4 1988	81	83
Chevron 5 1992	95	97
Cummins 6¼ 1986	77	79
Dart 4¼ 1987	81	83
Eastman Kodak 4¼ 1988	117	119
Economic Labs 4¼ 1987	78	80
Federated Dept Stores 4¼ 1985	128	130
Ford 5 1988	78	80
Ford 6 1986	88	90
Gillette 4¼ 1987	78	80
Gould 5 1987	82¼	83¼
General Electric 4¼ 1987	83	85
Gulf and Western 5 1988	77	79
Harris 5 1987	72	74
Honeywell 6 1986	78	80
ITT 4¼ 1987	66¼	68¼
J. Ray McDermott 4¼ 1987	113	115
J. P. Morgan 4¼ 1987	101	103
Nabisco 5¼ 1988	95	97
Owens Illinois 4¼ 1987	89	91
J. C. Penney 4¼ 1987	78	80
Revlon 4¼ 1987	99	101
Rank Org 4¼ 1993	43	45
Sperry Rand 4¼ 1988	89	90
Squibb 4¼ 1987	88	90
Texaco 4¼ 1988	74	75
Union Carbide 4¼ 1982	103	105
Warner Lambert 4¼ 1987	94	96
Xerox Corp 5 1988	71	73

DM=Deutschmark issue

Source: Kidder, Peabody Securities, London.

Panocean re-jig

The Panocean shipping company is integrating its European storage installations and its short-sea chemical tankers into one company to be called Panocean Storage & Transport. The combined facilities represent a total historic investment of over £22m

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1974-75 High	Low	Company	Last Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
55	25	Armitage & Rhodes	29	+1	3.0	10.3	7.6
99	94	Deborah Services	99	—	7.5	7.6	5.2
137	90	Henry Sykes	137	—	4.9	3.6	9.1
61	18	Twinlock Ord	23	—	0.9	4.0	5.7
65	45	Twinlock 12% ULS	54	+1	12.0	22.2	—
62	48	Unilock Holdings	59	—	4.5	7.6	11.4

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorised Unit Trusts

Columns: 1974-75 High, Low; Bid, Offer, Trust; Bid, Offer, Yield.

Abacus Arbuthnot Ltd. — Allen Trust Managers Ltd. — Allied Hambro Group. — Barclays Unicorn Ltd. — Bridge Talisman Fund Manager Ltd. — Brandts Ltd. — The British Life. — Brown Shipley Unit Fund Managers. — Canada Life Unit Trust Managers. — Capel (James) Management Ltd. — Carliol Unit Fund Managers Ltd. — Charities Official Investment. — Charterhouse Japhet Unit Management Ltd. — Crescent Unit Trust Managers Ltd. — Equitas Securities Ltd. — Equity & Law Unit Trust Managers Ltd. — Framlington Unit Trust Management Ltd. — Friends' Provident Unit Trust Managers Ltd. — Funds in Court. — G and A Unit Trust Managers Ltd. — G.T. Unit Managers Ltd. — Gartmore Fund Managers. — Guardian Royal Exchange Unit Man Ltd. — Henderson Administration. — Hill Samuel Unit Trust Managers Ltd. — Jascot Securities Ltd. — Key Fund Managers. — Lawson Securities. — Legal & General Tyndall Fund. — Lloyds Bank Unit Trust Managers. — M & G Securities. — Midland Bank Group Unit Trust Managers. — National Provident Inv Managers Ltd. — National Westminster Unit Trust Managers. — New Court Fund Managers Ltd. — Norwich Union Insurance Group. — Oceanic Unit Trust Managers Ltd. — Pearl Trust Managers Ltd. — Pelican Unit Administration. — Perpetual Unit Trust Management. — Piccadilly Unit Trust Managers Ltd. — Portfolio Fund Managers Ltd. — Practical Investment Co Ltd. — Provincial Life Investment Co Ltd. — Prudential Unit Trust Managers. — Reliance Unit Managers Ltd. — Save & Prosper Group. — Ebor Securities. — Save & Prosper Securities Ltd. — Scotbits Securities Ltd. — Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Ltd. — Scottish Equitable Fund Managers Ltd. — Slater Walker Trust Management Ltd. — Stewart Unit Trust Managers Ltd. — Sun Alliance Management Ltd. — Target Trust Managers Ltd. — Target Trust Managers (Scotland) Ltd. — TSB Unit Trust Managers. — Transatlantic & General Securities. — Trident Funds. — Tyndall Managers Ltd. — Tyndall National & Commercial. — Unit Trust Account & Management.

[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

Abbey Life Assurance Co. Ltd. — Albany Life Assurance Co Ltd. — AMEV Life Assurance Ltd. — Barclays Life Assurance Co. — Beehive Life Assurance. — Canada Life Assurance. — Cannon Assurance Ltd. — City of Westminster Assurance Society. — City of Westminster Assurance Co. — Commercial Union Group. — Cornhill Insurance. — Crown Life Fund Insurance Co. — Crusader Insurance. — Eagle Star Insurance/Midland Assurance. — Grosvenor Life Assurance Co Ltd. — Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Group. — Hambro Life Assurance. — Hearts of Oak Benefit Society. — Hill Samuel Life Assurance Ltd. — Hodge Life Assurance Co Ltd. — Imperial Life Assurance Co of Canada. — Individual Life Insurance Ltd. — Investment Annuity Life Assurance. — Irish Life Assurance. — Langham Life Assurance. — Life & Equity Assurance Co Ltd. — Lloyds Life Assurance Ltd. — Manufacturers Life Insurance. — Merchant Investors Assurance. — M & G Assurance. — Norwich Union Insurance Group. — Pearl Assurance (Unit Funds) Ltd. — Phoenix Assurance. — Property Equity & Life Ass Co. — Property Growth Assurance. — Prudential Pensions Ltd. — Reliance Mutual Insurance Society Ltd. — Save & Prosper Group. — Schroder Life Group. — Scottish Widows Fund & Life Assurance. — Slater Walker Insurance Co Ltd. — Standard Life Assurance Co. — Sun Life of Canada (UK) Ltd. — Target Life Assurance. — Trident Life. — Tyndall Assurance. — Vanbrugh Life Assurance Ltd. — Welfare Insurance.

[illegible]

Offshore and International Funds

Abacus Arbuthnot (C.I.) Ltd. — Barbican Managers (Jersey) Ltd. — Barclays Unicorn International (Ch Is) Ltd. — Barclays Unicorn International (I.O.M.) Ltd. — Brandts & Grindlay (Jersey) Ltd. — Brandts Ltd. — Calvin Bullock Ltd. — Charterhouse Japhet. — Cornhill Insurance (Guernsey) Ltd. — Ebor Management (Jersey). — Eurosyndicat Group. — First General Unit Managers. — Hambros (Guernsey) Ltd. — Individual Life Insurance Ltd. — Keyselex Bermuda Management Ltd. — Lamont Investment Management Ltd. — M & G Group. — Old Court Fund Managers Ltd. — Oliver Heath & Co. — Slater Walker Insurance Co (C.I.) Ltd. — Slater Walker (Jersey) Ltd. — Target Trust Managers (Cayman) Ltd. — Tyndall Group.

[illegible]

* Ex dividend. * Not available to the general public. † Guernsey gross yield. ‡ Previous day's price. x Ex all. ¶ Dealings suspended. ε Subdivided. £ Cash value for £100 premium.

Dealing or valuation day—(1) Monday. (2) Tuesday. (3) Wednesday. (4) Thursday. (5) Friday. (6) Dec 31. (13) Dec 30. (16) Dec 22. (18) Jan 1. (19) 25th of month. (20) 2nd and 4th Tuesday of month. (21) 1st and 3rd Wednesday of month. (22) 20th of month. (23) 3rd Tuesday of month. (24) 1st and 3rd Thursday of month. (25) 4th Wednesday of month. (26) Last Thursday of month. (27) 2nd working day of month. (28) 1st working day of month. (29) 1st day of Feb, May, Aug, Nov. (30) Last working day of month. (31) 15th of month. (35) 21st of each month. (36) 2nd Wednesday of month. (40) Valued monthly.

هكذا من الأصل

HINE
connoisseurs' cognac

Stock Exchange Prices

Mixed tone

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 12. Dealings End, Dec 24. § Contango Day, Dec 29. Settlement Day, Jan 7
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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FOREIGN STOCKS

OLLAR STOCKS

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A—B

C—E

F—H

J—L

M—N

O—S

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THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

London House for Overseas Graduates

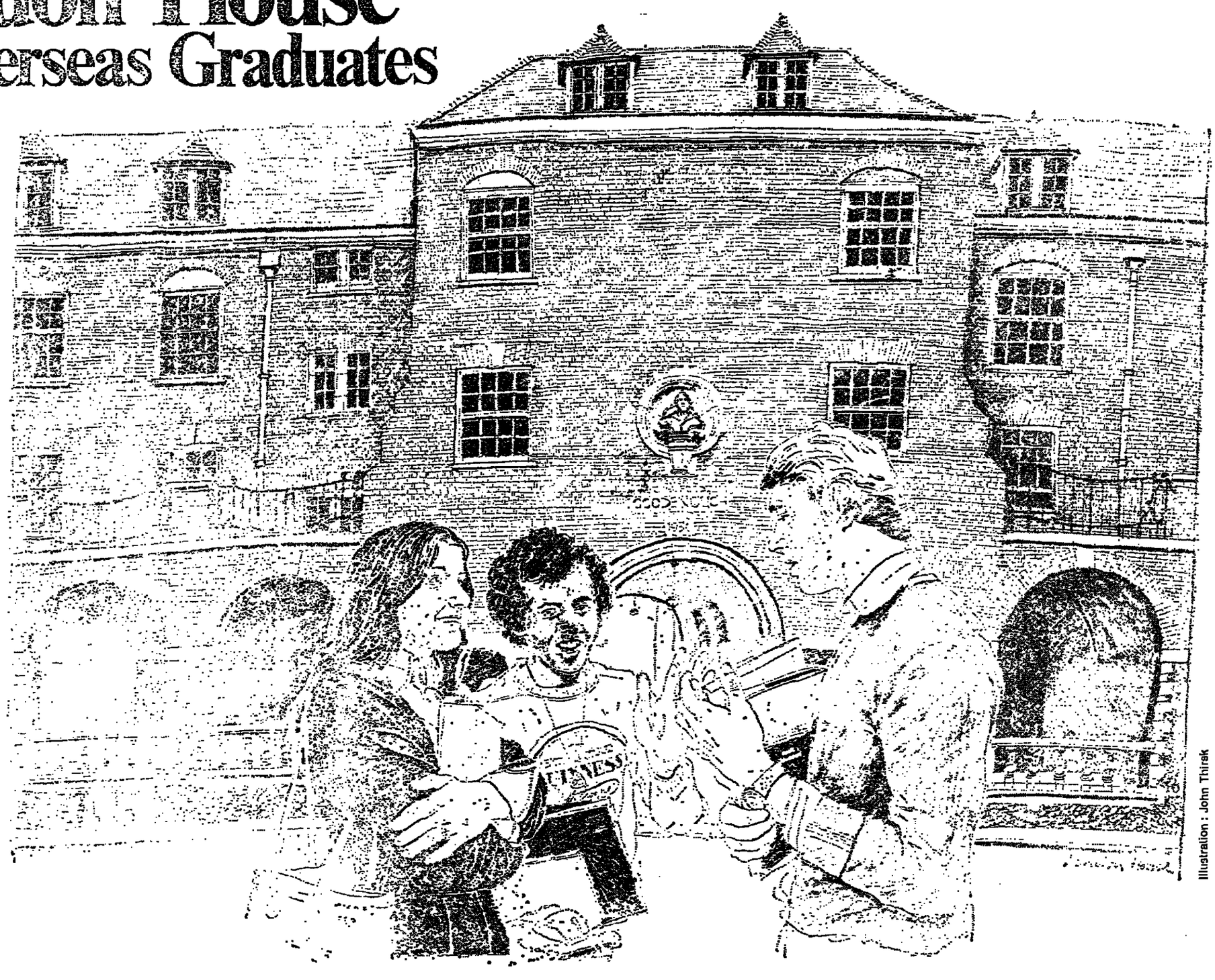


Illustration : John Thirsk

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Escape of hundreds from the lonely life of a stranger

by Patrick O'Leary

Since *The Times* moved to New Printing House Square my path to work has included Guilford Street, on the eastern fringes of Bloomsbury. Past its terraces of early nineteenth-century houses and modern developments nurses hurry to work in neighbouring hospitals and tourists wander in search of Dickens's home in Doughty Street.

My curiosity had been aroused by a building, unmistakably of the 1930s, on the north side of Guilford Street. Several storeys high, it stands four-square on an island site; through the imposing arched gateway, surmounted by symbols of empire, a green courtyard can be seen; a non-committal sign says "London House" and directs callers to an entrance on the other side of the block in Mecklenburgh Square.

Charity has grown in size and scope

An inscription under the eaves, *Immortalis est Ingenii Memoria*, hints at the academic life. But the constant to-and-froing of serious young people that marks a college is lacking.

So it was with pleasure that I received an invitation to visit the house and learn something about it. London House is a hall of residence for postgraduates principally from overseas, who need to continue their studies in the capital.

Since its foundation as a charity 45 years ago it has grown in size and scope. Three students were the first intake soon after the doors opened; now there are 540 residents, of whom more than 100 are women. These live in William Goodenough House, on the north side of Mecklenburgh Square, and there are also 96 flats for married couples, some in a new block adjoining the women's quarters and others in restored Georgian houses on the east side of the square.

Officials say of the flats: "Only about one in 20 of the applications for them can be accepted, so great is the demand."

Students also use a holiday residence, the Burn, near Brechin, between Aberdeen and Dundee. One girl who spent a few days there this summer said: "We lived on fresh salmon from the river and strawberries out of the garden."

Another change has been in the name of the body running the establishments. Dominion Students' Hall Trust sounded just right in 1930, but not when there are enough Americans to hold a rousing Thanksgiving Day party, and students from the Continent and *South Africa*. *The title* was recently changed to London House for Overseas Graduates.

Its purpose remains what it has always been—to provide a non-teaching college for graduates coming to London to continue their studies. It is more congenial than eking out a lonely life in a bed-sitting room.

Mr Frederick Crauford Goodenough was the originator of the scheme, and his grandson is still a governor. Funds came largely from banks and other institutions and individuals in the City of London. These were joined later by overseas donors, and the trust has royal patronage.

About 13,000 students from more than 60 countries have stayed in Mecklenburgh Square. United Kingdom students are not excluded but, as a spokesman put it, "Other things being equal, if there was a choice between someone from Edinburgh or Nigeria the latter would get preference.

Older people are catered for

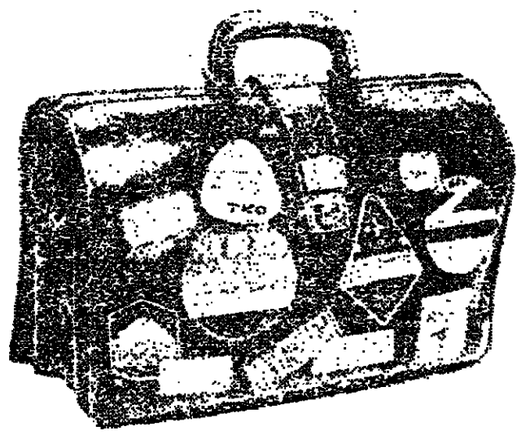
"We try to keep a mix between faculties and countries. For example, we should not want a situation where everyone was studying law."

The usual stay is two years, but some remain for three. In addition to those who have just graduated the houses occasionally accommodate older people, such as professors on sabbatical courses.

Shop talk in the common rooms may range over accountancy, engineering, chemistry, computer technology, medicine, commerce, architecture, literature, history and a variety of other subjects. It could be in the accents of Italy, Malaya, Rhodesia or dozens of other countries. An unwary visitor asking two students what

continued on facing page

Barclays Bank International is proud to have been associated with London House for Overseas Graduates and its work since the day it was founded.



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The struggle simply to find a roof

by David Walker

ecent survey by the h Council put the num- of overseas students in London area at about 0. They come to read legrees at London Uni- y, take technical quali- ons at the polytechnics, for the Bar and become ered or certified accoun-

ndon attracts over 50 per of all overseas students g to Britain and more half of them are post- ates. For the 40,000 fers about 1,250 bed specifically provided verseas students. Post- ates pose an even difficulty for the uni- y and polytechnic modation services try vainly every Sep- er to cope with the nd for beds. Postgradu- end to come at the bot- of the list of available in halls of residence; es, they come often with and family and need erent kind of accommo- .

the accommodation ems faced by London ersity, the polytechnics the independent chari- trusts such as Interna- l Students House and on House need to be against a rapidly chang- background of the num- place of origin and of course attended by seas students.

big change, for example, rred in 1972-73 when, the first time, the num- of foreign students over- the number who came ritain from the Commonth. A second was in -74, when the number of ents at polytechnics and nical colleges first exceethe number at universi- In London there are e than 10,000 overseas ents at technical col- s compared with nearly) at London, City and iel universities and es like the Royal College rt.

hind these shifts in the onal pattern has been her wide-ranging move- t—away from under- uate towards post- luate and post-experience ents. Of all overseas ents in universities in -74 there were 15,451 postgraduates and 10,177 undergraduates. Ten years ago they were divided almost equally.

Such trends bring particular problems. With more foreign students, the one of familiarity with English becomes more acute. The committee representing British university vice-chancellors recently began an examination of the tests administered to overseas students after doubts had been voiced about how well many students understood their lectures, particularly in the technical subjects.

Most obvious are the accommodation and social questions. A university medical officer wrote recently about the usefulness of a postgraduate being accompanied by his wife because it created a kind of "cultural microcosm" to protect against loneliness and isolation. He added, however, that wives and children needed special accommodation and welfare services which many educational institutions were not equipped to give.

With many students now going to such places as the Polytechnic of Central London, the City of London Polytechnic and other Inner London Education Authority colleges, the pressure on their often meagre accommodation has built up.

People in the front line of the struggle to find a roof for the postgraduates who often arrive with unannounced wives and babies, such as Miss Gabriele Reifenberg, London University's accommodation officer, and Mr Peter Hodges, lodgings officer at the Polytechnic of Central London, often have to compete for the available bed-sitting rooms and flats once their halls of residence are full.

Mr Hodges, who said he regretted that he had to compete with London University, emphasized the part played by good accommodation in a student's academic success. Worries about living space, money or family were sure ways to make the overseas postgraduate's academic task harder, he said.

In addition recent years of inflation have upset exchange control procedures for many of the developing countries. Students with a fixed grant income have been known to find themselves penniless half way through the academic year.

Miss Reifenberg said: "There is a special need for the postgraduates who tend to be squeezed out of the predominantly undergraduate halls of residence. People in particular need are those at the Inns of Court, for whom no special accommodation is available, or those studying for less than a full academic year."

London University has a small number of furnished flats for married postgraduates from Britain and overseas in Kensington, and bodies such as the Nuffield College of Surgical Sciences, associated with the Royal College of Surgeons, have a number of short-stay flats for married postgraduate medical students from abroad without children. Likewise London University colleges such as the London School of Economics, King's College and Imperial College have residences, though not specifically for overseas students.

A recent development encouraged by the polytechnics and institutions like the City University which are desperate for accommodation for all their students has been self-help by students in north London in setting up their own housing associations, often managing "short-life" housing available through local authorities.

For the bulk of overseas students, however, living in London is a long search through lists of flats and bed-sitting rooms, often in the suburbs. For such students the British Council's student centre in Portland Place can be a useful way of fighting isolation.

Temporary base in an hotel

Few students are fortunate enough to be offered accommodation at the same time as they get their place in a college. The accommodation agencies are not able to do much in advance of the student's arrival in Britain; landlords will not take a tenant they have not first seen; so the newly arrived student has to see rooms and meet landlords from a temporary base that could be a bed-and-breakfast private hotel.

For married students there are few places. International House, in Woolwich, for instance, which is run by an independent body, provides 29 self-contained flats for couples with one child and five double rooms for couples unaccompanied by children at rents extending from £36 to £59 a month.

Mr Tony Shaw, director of the International Students Trust, a charity like London House, gave a warning of the severe difficulties caused by separating families even for short periods of study abroad. His institution, which provides a residence for 130 men and women, a student centre and accommodation for 42 married couples, lays emphasis on the need to mix students of different subjects.

Difficulties for overseas, and particularly coloured, students do not disappear once they have found accommodation. Mr Shaw pointed out a common hardship—the loneliness of wives. Married couples need privacy in their often self-contained flatlets, but there is a danger that a wife separated from British society by language becomes depressed.

In recent months all overseas students have had to contend with a barrage of criticism. From the academics themselves have come complaints of science and technology departments having "too many" foreigners, crowding out British students. Dr Keith Hampson, Conservative MP for Ripon, said last month that the numbers of overseas students were reaching "ridiculous proportions" and called for a threefold increase in tuition fees.

As it is, accommodation charges vary to an extent that can rock the budgets of students from the developing world. Some halls are still a reasonable bargain. Lillian Penson Hall, in Talbot Square, run by London University to provide residence for all postgraduates, charges £36.50 a month for a single room and £69.20 for a one-room flat with kitchen. Kings College Hall, in south-east London, open to all students from that college, charges £288 for a 30-week session for all meals and room.

The residences run by the charitable trusts tend to provide more recreational facilities than the university residences. The fees at International Students House, in Park Crescent, are £10.15 a week for a single room including breakfast and £8.40 for a double room. London House is slightly dearer by comparison.

However, if he can afford the fees, an overseas student is likely to be attracted by the secure conditions offered by an "official" hall of residence situated in central London.

The author is on the staff of The Times Higher Education Supplement.



The communal dining hall.



A great place for remembering

Nikolaus Pevsner is decidedly offhand about the architecture of London House. "Symmetrical southern front in which Sir Herbert Baker's motifs and foibles are only too noticeable", he says in his *London*.

You can see what he means. The mixture of knapped flint, brick and stone, topped with roofs pierced by attic windows, gives the building the look of a heavyweight. The neo-Georgian lines lack the grace of the genuine Georgian buildings to be found in neighbouring streets. But Sir Herbert began his work 40 years ago, when architecture was struggling to emerge from the reinforced concrete jungle.

The inner quadrangle, partly bordered by a colonnaded walk and presided over by a bust of the founder, provides a patch of green and peace conducive to contemplation. In the oldest wing the dining hall has loftiness and a wealth of oak panelling, a reminder that the inter-war years were spacious in their way.

London House is a great place for memorial tablets; there is even one to commemorate a popular head porter. The most prominent, high on the outside of the south front, states the library was named after Sir Charles Parsons, once a governor of the house trust.

Sir Charles, best known for developing steam turbines for power stations and battleships, was a man of ideas. One was to sink a bore hole 12 miles into the earth; perhaps the scientists who hope to draw heat from beneath the earth's crust should study his proposals, although he expected the task to take 30 years.

When the trust first bought the site it was occupied by houses, and according to Brigadier E. C. Pepper, who wrote *The History of London House*, difficult negotiations became necessary when it was discovered a right of way existed through what is now the quadrangle. Some of the old buildings, which were used by officers from overseas, were destroyed during the last war.



The library is well used by residents.

This must have eased the task of later redevelopment, but the war was not so helpful in the case of property owned by the trust on the east side of Mecklenburgh Square. Although it received a direct hit, the ruling of the Royal Fine Art Commission was that the façade should be rebuilt.

No doubt this was expensive, but the restored flats do much to maintain the period charm of the square. Garages and a boilerhouse under the flats have been skilfully concealed.

In 1957 women students and married couples who had previously lived in scattered houses were welcomed into their own neo-Georgian quarters. The latter, to the north of the square, was given the name William Goodenough House, after the son of the founder. Two years ago another block of flats was added to the house.

The various buildings look on to Mecklenburgh Gardens, which is reserved for residents. Apart from losing their railings in wartime salvage drives, the gardens remain the centre of an area which a snob described 50 years ago as "highly respectable but not at all fashionable".

George Augustus Sala, a prolific journalist who had a house in the square in high Victorian days, was more enthusiastic. He told a friend: "It is under the friendly wing of the Governors of the Foundling Hospital. Northwest corner, no thoroughfare, nice garden in rear, one of the oldest and the greenest of full-bottomwigged squares in front, and a shilling cab fare to one's offices and one's club."

It was at this house in 1881 that Sala received a message from *The Daily Telegraph*: "Please write a leader on Billingsgate and the price of fish, and start for St Petersburg this evening." Tsar Alexander II had been assassinated.

The Foundling Hospital once owned the land on which the trust properties stand. A legacy of those days is Coram Fields, the most elegant playground in London, which makes a pleasant outlook to the west of London House.

P. O'L.

Escape of hundreds from a lonely life

continued from facing page

they were researching was told: "The politics of protest in the Soviet Union and ancient hymns."

Men in single study bedrooms pay from about £2 a night to £3.25, depending on length of stay and type of accommodation, without food. In the 1930s the same fee would have covered a week, breakfast and dinner included.

Rents of flats range from £42 to £105 a month. All charges have gone up sharply in the past two years and will rise again next year.

Even at these prices there is a planned deficit between fees charged and the running costs, without allowing for depreciation and maintenance of property. This deficit, described as an invisible scholarship, is at present £200 a head each year.

Residents not classified as strictly postgraduate students, such as those in transit or on sabbatical courses, are not subsidized. Short-stay lettings enable rooms to be fully used during the changeover of long-term students.

Some married couples come from countries which do not allow them to bring sufficient money on which to live in Britain. Often the mother has to go out to work while her husband studies. To help them a nursery has been opened in the basement of the flats.

London House has a number of recreational rooms, including squash courts, while a hole in the basement marks the abandoned hope of installing a swimming pool. A simpler idea was a barbecue site in Mecklenburgh Gardens, round which the residential buildings are grouped.

The trust had a deficit for the year ending in March of nearly £34,000, although more than half the money went on eradicating dry rot in some of the original Georgian property. In June Lord Seebohm, chairman of the governing council, said: "We have to face rising costs in every aspect of our activities.

"At the same time the income from our investments has been substantially reduced because we have spent £500,000 of capital in the past few years on building much-needed additional flats. We still have considerable reserves, but they are steadily running down."

One idea for reducing costs was integration of the segregated residents of the two houses, London and William Goodenough. Predictably, the men were in favour, the women against. They wished to preserve the character and traditions of William Goodenough, which was a separate trust until 1965.

However, the dining hall in that house has been closed, a move expected to cut the present catering deficit of £40,000 by more than a quarter. The women can dine in London House.

Another economy comes from the boilerhouse underneath Byron Court, on the east side of the square. In addition to heating the various trust buildings it serves a neighbouring school for £10,000 a year.

On top of the running deficit the trust faces mounting maintenance costs on property, now valued at £8m without the price of the land.

Looking to 1980, the trustees are launching a jubilee appeal. It opens in the United States, which has sent 1,000 students to London House over the years. This will be followed by a drive for donations next year in Britain and other countries. Shock troops of this fund-raising are likely to be members of the London House Fellowship, the old boys' association.

Soon the work may enter a new phase. Many graduates come to London because they cannot obtain special training for higher qualifications in their own countries. But more nations are developing advanced educational systems.

Future residents of London and William Goodenough houses may increasingly be older people making short visits to carry out research and increase their experience. But those in charge of the trust believe that they will still need the same informal yet collegiate atmosphere for study and relaxation.

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as from the publication of this invitation to tender

Tenders should be placed in two sealed envelopes with the words :

" Offre Commerciale pour le Complexe de TEBESSA—Ne pas ouvrir."
" Offre Commerciale pour le Complexe de ANNABA—Ne pas ouvrir."

and should be sent to SONATRACH, for the attention of Vice-Président Engineering et Développement, to arrive not later than 30 APRIL, 1976.

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SONATRACH—105, BONN Bad—Godesberg,
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PUBLIC NOTICES

COUNTER-INFLATION ACT 1973 (c. 9)
NOTICE
under section 6(2) and (3) of the Act

To : South Shropshire District Council, Stone House, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1DJ

(1) The Price Commission, in exercise of their powers under section 6 (2) and (3) of the Counter-Inflation Act 1973, hereby give you notice requiring you to restrict charges for the performance of services in the course of business.

(2) The said restriction requires that in the market controlled by you and situated at the Market Hall, Ludlow, charges for the occupation of stalls shall be restricted to the level of charges in force on 30 November 1975.

Dated 10 December 1975.
WILLIAM RUGHES.
on behalf of the Price Commission

NOTICE

All Advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

LEGAL NOTICES
also on page 11

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matters of: No 003788 of 1975 G. D. BUILDERS (KINGSBURY 1970) Limited. No 003791 of 1975 STILBENE PROPERTIES Limited. No 003792 of 1975 GRAHAM ROAD PROPERTY CO. Limited. No 003795 of 1975 NUNHEAD PROPERTIES Limited and In the Matter of The Companies Act, 1948.

Notice is hereby given that PETITIONS for the WINDING UP of the above named Companies by the High Court of Justice were on the 17th day of November 1975 presented to the said Court by The Commissioners of Inland Revenue, of Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 1LB, and that the said Petitions are directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, on the 13th day of January 1976, and any creditor or contributory of any of the said Companies desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on any of the said Petitions may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel, for that purpose, and a copy of the Petition will be furnished to any creditor or contributory of any of the said Companies requiring the same by the undersigned on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

HIGGS, THOMPSON & SAMWELL, 2 Tudor Court, Brighton Road, Sutton, Surrey Solicitors for the Petitioning Creditor.

NOTE: any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve or send by post to the above named notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name and address of the person or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm and must be signed by the person or firm or his or their Solicitor (if any) and must be served or if posted must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above named not later than four o'clock in the afternoon of the 9th day of January 1976

No. 004127 of 1975
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matter of RODGES FRY Limited and In the Matter of the Companies Act 1948

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION for the WINDING UP of the above named Company by the High Court of Justice was on the 15th day of December 1975 presented to the said Court by Clover-leaf Insurance Company Limited, whose Registered Office is at Floredale House, 283/289 Dover Street, London W.1. and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at The High Court of Justice, Strand, London W.C.2 on Monday, 26th January 1976, and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel for that purpose and a copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

HIGGS, THOMPSON & SAMWELL, 2 Tudor Court, Brighton Road, Sutton, Surrey Solicitors for the Petitioning Creditor.

NOTE: any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve or send by post to the above named notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name and address of the person or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm and must be signed by the person or firm or his or their Solicitor (if any) and must be served or if posted must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above named not later than four o'clock in the afternoon of the 24th January, 1976.

Re: ANNIE GREENWOOD, deceased. Notice pursuant to Section 27 of the Trustee Act 1925.

Any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of ANNIE GREENWOOD deceased late of 99 Fair Court, Gloucester Place, London, N.W.1. Widow, who died on the 25th day of July, 1975 is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his or her claim or interest to the undersigned the Solicitors for Simon Wallace of 8 De Walden Court, 85 New Cavendish Street, London, W.1. the Executor of the Will of the said Annie Greenwood not later than the 1st day of March, 1976 after which date the said Executor will distribute the estate among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the valid claims or interests of which he has had notice and he will not as respects the property so distributed be liable to any person whose claim or interest he shall not then have had notice.

No. 004031 of 1975
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Group A Mr Registar Dearbergh In the Matter of ROBINSON RENTALS (HOLDINGS) Limited and In the Matter of the Companies Act, 1948.

Notice is hereby given that by an Order dated the 11th day of December, 1975 made in the above matters the Court has directed a meeting to be convened of the holders of the Ordinary Shares of the above-named Company (hereinafter called " the Company ") (other than those beneficially owned by Granada Group Limited) for the purpose of considering and if thought fit approving (with or without modification) a *SCHEME of ARRANGEMENT* proposed to be made between the Company and the holders of its said Shares (other than as aforesaid) and that such Meeting will be held at the registered office of the Company at Ampthill Road, Bedford MK42 9QQ, in the County of Bedford on Monday the 12th day of January, 1976 at 12.00 noon at which place and time all such Shareholders are requested to attend.

Any person entitled to attend the said Meeting can obtain copies of the said Scheme of Arrangement, Forms of Proxy, and copies of the Statement required to be furnished pursuant to Section 207 of the above-mentioned Act at the registered office of the Company situate at Ampthill Road, Bedford MK42 9QQ, and at the office of the undermentioned Solicitors at the address mentioned below during usual business hours on any day (other than a Saturday, Sunday or Bank Holiday) prior to the day appointed for the said Meeting.

THE SAID SHAREHOLDERS MAY VOTE IN PERSON AT THE SAID MEETING OR THEY MAY APPOINT ANOTHER PERSON WHETHER A MEMBER OF THE COMPANY OR NOT AS THEIR PROXY TO ATTEND AND VOTE IN THEIR STEAD.

In the case of joint holders the vote of the senior who tenders a vote whether in person or by proxy will be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders and for this purpose seniority will be determined by the order in which the names stand in the Register of Members of the Company.

It is requested that forms appointing proxies be lodged with the Registrars of the Company, Messrs. Kingston Cooper & Wills, Bourne House, 34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham Kent BR3 4UQ, not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for the said Meeting but if forms are not so lodged they may be handed to the Chairman at the said Meeting.

By the said Order the Court has appointed William Robert Carr or failing him Brian Quilter or failing him Christopher George Stanton to act as Chairman of the said Meeting and has directed the Chairman to report the result thereof to the Court.

The said Scheme of Arrangement will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Court.

Dated the 19th day of December, 1975.

TURNER PEACOCK, 13 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4DN. Solicitors for the Company.

No. 003563 of 1975
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matter of FREDDIE SQUIRES Limited and In the Matter of the Companies Act 1948

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION for the WINDING UP of the above-named Company by Frederick Squires in the High Court of Justice was on the 29th day of November 1975 presented to the said Court by Frederick Squires, Via Rinaudi No 59, Alghero, Sardinia, Italy.

And that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL, on the 12th day of January, 1976, and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel for that purpose ; and a copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Signed RIDERS.
Address 8 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3QP

Note : Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve on or send by post to the above-named, notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their Solicitor (if any), and must be served or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than four o'clock in the afternoon of the 9th day of January, 1976.

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Please write in confidence to—A. Orchard, Group Personnel Manager, Lonrho Ltd., Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BL.

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Applications are invited from solicitors for posts in :—

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In both appointments a knowledge of committee work and recent experience in private practice, although not essential, would be an advantage.

Appointments will be made in the grade of Assistant Solicitor (£4,070-£5,900 p.a.) or Assistant Secretary (£5,229-£8,238 p.a.) at salaries which will reflect age, experience and personal qualities and will not necessarily be at the minimum of the ranges.

Career prospects are good and may involve transfer to other aspects of The Society's work so as to broaden the experience of the successful applicants and fit them for senior responsibility.

The conditions of service are attractive and include four weeks' annual leave, contributory superannuation scheme and free life assurance cover.

Write in confidence giving full details of experience, employment record, present salary, post applied for and date available to Secretary-General, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1PL, not later than the 1st January, 1976.

EDITOR

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The editor can expect to have access to management and staff at all levels throughout the Group.

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Applications should be made to:

The London Staff Manager,
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BARCLAYS

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW
S.S.R.C. PROFESSORIAL FELLOWSHIP
in
STATISTICS APPLIED TO THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Applications are invited for a Professorial Fellowship in Statistics Applied to the Social Sciences. This Fellowship has been created by the Social Science Research Council to enable Statisticians of substantial experience and seniority to undertake full-time research. The Fellowship will have an *initial duration of two years with the possibility* of extension for one further year only.

The emolument will be at professorial level. Appropriate Superannuation Scheme will apply.

The date of the appointment is flexible, but it is hoped that it will be not later than 1st October, 1976.

Further particulars may be had from the Secretary of the University Court (Room 18), University of Glasgow, Glasgow, G12 8QQ, with whom applications (eight copies) giving the names and addresses of three referees, should be lodged on or before 29th February, 1976.

In reply please quote Ref. *No. 3686/I.E.*

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

The University of Lancaster

LECTURER IN ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Economics to commence 1 October 1976. The Department requires a specialist in monetary theory, and the principal duties of this post will be to organise and teach courses in monetary economics to third year B.A. students, with some opportunities for research and supervision at graduate level. The successful applicant will also be expected to teach introductory economics, both micro and macro, at first-year level, and general macro-economics at second year level. An additional interest in public finance or growth theory might be an advantage. Preference will be given to a monetary theorist, but a good macro economist prepared to work in this field would be considered.

Salary on the scale £2,778-£6,060 (under review)

Further particulars may be obtained (quoting reference L7/A) from the Establishment Officer, University House, Lancaster LA1 4YW, to whom applications (five copies), naming three referees, should be sent not later than 12 January, 1976.

University of Glasgow

LECTURESHIP IN STATISTICS

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Statistics. The salary will be within the range £3,174 to £4,872 per annum of the Lecturers' scale of £3,174 to £6,426 per annum (under review). Appropriate Superannuation Scheme will apply.

Further particulars may be had from the Secretary of the University Court (Room 18), The University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ, with whom applications (4 copies), giving the names and addresses of three referees, should be lodged on or before 31st January, 1976.

In reply please quote Ref. No. 3755 E.

ABINGDON SCHOOL OXFORDSHIRE

Appointment of

BURSAR AND CLERK TO THE GOVERNORS

The Governors of Abingdon *School invite applications for* the post of Bursar and Clerk to the Governors which will become vacant in April 1976.

Particulars of the school will be found in the Public Schools Year Book. Details of the appointment are available on *application to the Clerk to the* Governors, Abingdon School, Oxfordshire, or telephone Abingdon 21463.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Tasmania

LECTURESHIP IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Applications will be considered in any of the sub-disciplines, but preference may be given to the fields of Political Behaviour, Public Relations or Public Policy studies.

Salary will be within the scale $A11,646-$A13,970 according to qualifications and experience.

The University reserves the right to offer a short-term contract appointment, or a one-half-only appointment, rather than an appointment with immediate tenure.

Further particulars, conditions of appointment and application forms are obtainable from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (Appts.), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF.

Applications close on 16 January, 1976.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

St. John's College
OXFORD

JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The College proposes, if suitable candidates present themselves, to elect to two Junior Research Fellowships from 1 October, 1976 in History and in one of the following subjects: Archaeology, Geography, Music or Oriental Studies. The College Statutes do not permit the election of women. The Fellowships will be tenable for three years, after which they may exceptionally be renewed for not more than one year. Candidates should not normally have exceeded 28 years of age at the time of their election and should have already completed their first degree.

A Junior Research Fellow will receive a stipend of £2,535 a year (under review), is entitled to lunch and dine at High Table without charge and will if unmarried, be given free rooms or, if married, a housing allowance.

Further particulars and forms of application may be obtained from the Senior Tutor. Completed application forms should be sent to the Senior Tutor as early as possible and not later than Saturday, 31 January, 1976.

Cambridge University

APPLICABLE MATHEMATICS

Applications are invited for a

LECTURESHIP OR ASSISTANT LECTURESHIP
IN APPLICABLE MATHEMATICS

(e.g. in the mathematics of subjects such as probability, statistics, operational research, control systems, or non-physical applications).

Further information from the Secretary of the Appointments Committee of the Faculty of Mathematics, Silver Street, Cambridge CB3 9EW, or from the Director of the Statistical Laboratory, 16 Mill Lane, Cambridge, CB2 1SB, telephone 65661, ext. 352.

Closing date: 7 February, 1976.

The University of Liverpool

BOWES CHAIR OF RUSSIAN

Applications are invited for the Bowes Chair of Russian. The salary will be not less than £8,058 per annum.

Twelve copies of an application, stating qualifications and experience, together with the names of three referees, should be received not later than 26th January, 1976, by the undersigned, from whom further particulars may be obtained. (Candidates overseas may send one copy only, by airmail.) Quote ref. IV. 537/4.

H. M. BURCHNALL,
Registrar.

The Registrar,
The University,
P.O. Box 147,
Liverpool,
L69 3BX.

The University of Manchester

LECTURER IN MUSIC

Applications invited for one or two posts as Lecturer in Music available from October, 1976. Salary scale £2,778-£6,060 (under review) with initial salary up to £5,454 per annum. Further information and application forms (returnable by February 20th) from the Registrar, The University, Manchester, M13 9PL. Quote ref.: 236/76/T.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Salford

LECTURER IN ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Economics to commence 1 October 1976. The Department requires a specialist in monetary theory, and the principal duties of this post will be to organise and teach courses in monetary economics to third year B.A. students, with some opportunities for research and supervision at graduate level. The successful applicant will also be expected to teach introductory economics, both micro and macro, at first-year level, and general macro-economics at second year level. An additional interest in public finance or growth theory might be an advantage. Preference will be given to a monetary theorist, but a good macro economist prepared to work in this field would be considered.

Salary on the scale £2,778-£6,060 (under review)

Further particulars may be obtained (quoting reference L7/A) from the Establishment Officer, University House, Lancaster LA1 4YW, to whom applications (five copies), naming three referees, should be sent not later than 12 January, 1976.

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Candidates should possess distinct scientific standing. An ability to provide personal leadership and a capa*city for management and liaison are essential.*

The post which is superannuable will be based in Edinburgh. The successful candidate should take up post as soon as possible, and no later than 1 October 1976.

Application forms and further particulars are available from Recruitment Section, Nature Conservancy Council, 19 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PY.

Closing date for completed application forms : 16 January 1976. Interviews will be held in London on 17 February 1976.

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PHOTO ADV. STUDIO, W.1, needs bright Receptionist. Phone Andy, Photostaff, 439 1821.

SENIOR GYNAECOLOGIST (possibly retired) immediately required for women's hospital in Delhi, for about 6 months to fill temporary vacancy due to illness. Fares paid. Modest salary. Apply Dr. Kathleen Wright, USPG, 15, Tufton Street SW1P 3QQ. Telephone 01-222 4222.

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£2,100 to £3,000
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Essential: good shorthand. Firm of chartered accountants: modern building, near Oxford Circus. Flexible hours: 35-hour week: minimum salary £2,750 plus l.v.s—35p.
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Part-time Secretary, 10-1 or negotiable, required for P.R. W.C.1.
STELLA FISHER BUREAU 110 STRAND, W.C.2. 01-836 6644.

UN PROPRIO REGALO PER LEI . . .
If you are 25-plus, English mother tongue with faultless Italian, with top secretarial speeds and good appearance, and have had proven experience at senior level, our clients are offering a seasonal gift of £3,300 with exceptional benefits. Phone Andrea, 584 4235.

WE'LL LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP! Making doubly sure your next choice of job (permanent or temporary) is a singularly successful landing! Coffee's ready — welcome! — Joyce Guinness Bureau (589 8807/0010), 21 Brompton Arcade, Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, S.W.3 (Brompton Arcade is a few steps from Knightsbridge Tube station, Sloane Street exit). The place for top jobs!

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PART-TIME SECRETARY for Flag Day Organiser of leading National Charity W.1. Hours and salary negotiable. January to June. Ring 580 0145.

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/PA
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Vice President and Manager of an American Bank in the City.
The requirement is for a lady aged approximately 28 with first class shorthand and typing speeds and administrative ability.
In addition to top salary we offer excellent working conditions and above average fringe benefits.
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Exceptional and interesting position available in New Year [illegible]. This office situated in [illegible] surroundings. [illegible] Apply in writing only, giving full details to The Estate Office, [illegible]

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£3,500 NEGOTIABLE
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Many lady who's into films and publicity, and advertising and also has good sec skills deserves to be hired by a Wardour St. film group. You'll be dealing with of people and will be in on the [illegible] to Box Office smashes of '76. Salary's £2,400.
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WITH SOME FRENCH GERMAN OR SPANISH
£3,000
Top Marketing Manager of major manufacturers needs energetic young P.A. with good basic Secretarial qualifications, initiative and some additional languages to help out on a varied range of press and print firm liaison activities. Good conditions and profit sharing. Miss Fox, CHALLONERS, 119 Newgate Street, E.C.1. 606 7...

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requires
Future Stocking
Secretary
(including simple Bookkeeping), to start January.
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UPDATED TO 1975 SPEC.
1969 but has all 1975 features costing over £600. Low mileage, Rover enthusiast owner. Guaranteed indistinguishable from 1975 3500. House forces sale. £995.
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1974 DAIMLER DOUBLE 6, duotone brown/beige, with tan upholstery; fitted air conditioning, radio; recorded mileage 18,000. A very attractive looking car. £4,495. 1967 Bentley T Series, duo-tone black over grey, with grey upholstery; fitted radio, H.R.W., electric windows. A magnificent looking example. £4,995.—South Coast Motors. 0273 413835.

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NEW FIATS. All models during December at pre-increase prices. —Phone Normans, 01-584 6441/01-623 0049.

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YOUR TOYOTA DEALER on the South Coast. Wiston of Worthing, South Farm Rd., Worthing, Sussex. Worthing 34506.

1974 DAIMLER SOVEREIGN 4.2 automatic p.a.s. central locking Radio, finished in Royal Blue with crimson leather upholstery, impeccably maintained by one careful owner. £3,995. 1974 Mercedes Benz 230/4 automatic p.a.s. central locking, finished in deep blue with matching interior, a well maintained example of a much sought after Mercedes, £3,895. Tanglins of Twickenham, 66, York St., Twickenham. 01-891 0211.

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EUROCARS (LONDON) LTD. 1st reg'd May 1975. Citroen DS.23 Pallas EFI Manual. Metallic Beige Tholoner Caramel Jersey. Fitted full air-conditioning, 5,000 miles. £3,1... 1st reg'd. June, 1975. Citroen DS.23 Pallas EFI Manual. Blue Laume Blue Jersey 7,000 miles, £2,995. 01-723 1821.

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£1,575
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No dealers.

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Beautiful Austin 20 25 Doctor's coupe open tourer with dickey seat in concours condition, running perfectly, excellent tyres, upholstery, etc Just completed tour of France. Normally £5,000, will sell at
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01-969 2625

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June 1973, ... miles, ... blue metallic, vinyl roof and natural interior, all extras. Offers over £7,000.
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1973 PEUGEOT. 504 Estate, metallic blue, one owner: very good condition. 17,000 miles; 6 mths. tax; £1,575. Maidenhead (0628) 25889.

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71-75 XJ6 wanted for cash.—Hamerton, 584 9835 ..., weekends Chelmsford 71940.

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A family business established 54 years offer the following superb cars
November 1965 ROLLS-ROYCE CLOUD III H.J.M. P.W. Continental 2-door saloon. 49,000 miles.
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Evenings 0273 65894

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SPAIN. Ex-woman journalist seeks job—export, P.R., secretary, business, teaching English. Driver. Spanish. Anything legal considered. Box 2011 S, The Times.

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S.W.11.—House, 1 double £8.50 each excl.; 1 single £13.50 excl. k. & b., Modern furn.—01-228 5984 after 2 p.m.

WIMBLEDON. 2nd professional male required to share flat. Own room, share rest. £12.50 p.w. 947 3024 after 6 p.m.

LOOKING FOR OWN ROOM? Executive Flatsharers, 235 6138.

FREE SERVICE to landlords. Executive Flatsharers, 235 6138.

BLOOMSBURY.—Own room in beautiful flat, £17 p.w. 405 3652, eves.

FLAT MATES specialists, 313 Brompton Rd., S.W.3. 589 5491.

W.8.—Girl to share flat own room £18 p.w. Tel. James 229 5795 eves.

FLAT SHARE, 213 Piccadilly, 734 0318. Professional people sharing.

PROFESSIONAL GENTLEMAN, 25-35, to share lovely, spacious flat in W.9. Own room, Col. T.V., telephone, c.h., etc. £100 p.c.m.—Tel: 0734 81465 evrs.

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SW10. Girl share room. Large flat, £35 p.c.m.—370 4828.

LARGE ROOM in detached house nr. Osterley tube. Suit girl or 2 girls sharing. £44 p.c.m. Phone Fri. eve., Sat. morn. 574 1666.

S.W.1.—2 quiet girls share room in flat. £10 p.w. each.—222 1162.

SUNNY ROOM in C.H., W.2. flat £13 p.w. 01-221 5779.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD. Spacious, comfortable flat: c.h., own room, colour TV, carpeted: £18 p.w.—286 7879 evenings.

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RENTALS

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W.1.—3 bedroom luxury flat in modern block. Available now. Long or short let. 01-458 5636, before 2 p.m. and after 6.

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HAMPSTEAD, nr. Heath tube, 2 smart rooms, k. & b., s/c £35 p.w.—435 4318.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE, FURNISHED FLAT. 1 bed, 1 recept., k. & b. Single occupation. £50 p.w. 435 7969.

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RENTALS

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Entrance hall, three double bedrooms, one single bedroom, living room, large dining room, breakfast room, well-equipped kitchen and two bathrooms make up this excellent accommodation. Outside there is a good size garden and our clients do not mind you having central heating; garage and two lock up carports.
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FOR SALE AND WANTED

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More stocks have to be cleared By Order!
12,000 CASES—BELOW COST
1,000 CASES Calvet's View Bordeaux. A mature, elegant claret of distinction. Only £11 per case 12 bottles.
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1,400 CASES of Chianti Colli 1973. A superb, garnet red, Tuscan wine at a knock-out price—must all go at £10 per case 12 bottles.
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300 CASES Macon Rouge. Bottled in France by the producer. A very good dry red wine of no great distinction, but very drinkable, at, no wait for it . . . £9 a case of 12 bottles.
1,700 CASES Centenaire Grand Rouge. Yes, we have succeeded in securing a small quantity of this famous Chateauneuf du Pape wine at a very good price. This is definitely the wine to put blood into your veins this winter. Cost a very modest £11.50 per case of 12 bottles.
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(continued on page 28)

Broadcasting

...ast round up. The Money Programme finishes off the year with a visit to the ...nited States to see what the economy there promises us for 1976 (BBC2 8.20). Spirit ...f the Age, the architectural series, concludes with a survey by Sir Hugh Casson ...f the past 50 years (BBC2 9.30). Fanny Cradock winds up the week with petits fours (BBC1 3.43). Nationwide stages for the kiddies its own version of Opportunity Knocks (BBC1 6.0). A ghost as well as Norman Bird walks into Rising Damp (ITV ...30). The showjumpers are out for the prize money (BBC1 10.30).—L.B.

BBC 1

...25 am, The Engineer ...rough the Looking Glass: ...rt 3, Jam Yesterday, Jam ...omorrow. 12.25 pm, Pobol y ...m. 12.55, News. 1.00, Pebble ...ill. 1.45-2.00, Chigley. 3.43, ...anny Cradock Cooks for ...hristmas. 4.00, Play School. ...25, It's the Wolf. 4.35, Jack...ory. 4.50, Boss Cat. 5.15, ...abulous Animals. 5.40, Magic ...oundabout.
...45 News. 6.00, Nationwide.
...00 Film: Son of Lassie, with Peter Lawford, Donald Crisp.
...35 The Good Life.
...05 News.
...30 Switch.
...20 Michael Crawford looks at stars and films on BBC 1 this Christmas.
...0.30 Olympia International Show Jumping Championships.
1.22 Film: The Gunfighter, with Gregory Peck.*
...42-12.44 am, Weather.
Black and white.

...egional variations (BBC 1):—...BC WALES.—12.25-12.55 pm, ...ansmitters Closedown. 1.45-2.00, ...ut Pala. 6.00-7.00, Wales Today. ...ationwide. 7.00-7.10, Cartoons. ...10-7.35, Heddiw. 7.35-8.05, Fo A ...e. 8.05-8.35, Max Boyce. 11.20, ...he Christmas Story, oratorio by ...einrich Schutz. 12.00, News for ...ales. SCOTLAND.—12.25-12.55 ...m, Transmitters Closedown. 6.00-...00, Reporting Scotland. Nation...wide. 11.21-11.22, Scottish News ...ummary. NORTHERN IRELAND.—...2.25-12.55 pm, Transmitters ...losedown. 6.00-7.00, Scene ...round Six. Nationwide. 11.21-11.22, Northern Ireland News.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play School.
7.30 Newsday.
7.55 Pot Black. Second semi-final.
8.20 Money Programme in America.
9.05 Poems and Pints.
9.30 Spirit of the Age. Last part: Dreams and Awakenings—20th century architecture.
10.20 Trinity Tales, by Alan Plater. The Wife of Batley's Tale.
11.15 Newsnight.
11.30-11.35 William Lucas reads Norfolk, by John Berjeman.

Thames

10.00 am, Spiderman. 10.20, Dusty's Trail. 10.45, Boney. 11.30, Afloat. 12.00, A Handful of Songs. 12.10 pm, Hickory House. 12.30, Look Who's Talking. 1.00, News. 1.20, Lunchtime Today. 1.30, Crown Court. 2.00, Good Afternoon. 2.30, Galloping Gourmet. 3.00, Theatre of Stars. 3.55, General Hospital. 4.20, Robert's Robots. 4.50, Magpie. 5.20, The Flintstones.
5.50 News. 6.00, Today.
6.35 Crossroads.

ATV

10.00 am, Planting for Pleasure. 10.25, Film: The Lion, with William Holden, Trevor Howard, Capucine. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 2.30, Film: All My Darling Daughters, with Robert Young, Raymond Massey, Eve Arden. 3.55, Thames. 5.20, Supersonic. 5.50, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35, Crossroads. 7.00, Don't Drink the Water. 7.30, London. 10.30, Extra Time. 11.00-12.30 am, Film: That Kind of Woman, with Sophia Loren, Tab Hunter, George Sanders.*

London Weekend

7.00 pm, Who Do You Do?
7.30 Rising Damp.
8.00 Hawaii Five-O.
9.00 Beryl's Lot.
10.00 News.
10.30 Police Five.
10.40 Russell Harty, with Elton John.
11.30 Police Woman.
12.20 The Great Celestial Soap Opera.

Southern

10.00 am, The Nature of Things. 10.25, Hammy Hamster. 10.45, Untamed World. 11.10, Wait Till Your Father Gets Home. 11.30, Thames. 1.20 pm, Southern News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Women Only. 2.30, Film: Over the Moon, with Merle Oberon, Rex Harrison.* 3.55, Thames. 5.20, Sinbad Junior. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Day by Day. Scene South-East. 6.35, Out of Town Christmas Special. 7.35, London. 10.30, Southern Report. 11.00, Police Woman. 11.55, Southern News. 12.05 am, Doris Day Show. 12.30, Weather. Guideline.

Granada

9.30 am, Sesame Street. 10.25, Superman. 10.45, The Land. 11.05, Woody Woodpecker. 11.30, Clapperboard. 11.55, Babar. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, This is Your Right. 1.30, Thames. 2.30, Film: Calling Bulldog Drummond, with Walter Pidgeon, Margaret Leighton. 3.55, Thames. 4.20, The Beachcombers. 4.50, Magpie. 5.15, Chuckleheads.* 5.20, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.35, Space 1999. 7.35, London. 8.00, The Streets of San Francisco. 9.00, London. 10.30, Kick Off. 11.05, Film: The Face at the Window, with Tod Slaughter. 12.15-1.10 am, Theatre of Stars.

HTV

10.20 am, Hammy Hamster. 10.35, Sesame Street. 11.30, Thames. 1.20 pm, West Headlines. 1.25, Wales Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Women Only. 2.30, Film: Josh Albee, Jeff Tylor, Jane Wyatt and John McGiver in Tom Sawyer. 3.55, Thames. 4.20, Elephant Boy. 4.50, Magpie. 5.20, Orbit 5. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.01, Report West. 6.18, Report Wales. 6.35, Space 1999. 7.30, London. 10.30, Free Time. 11.00, Boney. 11.55, Weather. HTV CYMRU/WALES.—As HTV except: 1.20-1.25 pm, Penawdau Newyddion y Dydd. 4.20-4.50, Siesion Cantamil. 6.01-6.18, Y Dydd. 10.30, John Morgan on Who Runs Wales? 11.30, Two's Company. 12.00, Weather. HTV WEST.—As HTV except: 1.20-1.30 pm, West Headlines. 6.18-6.35, Report Wales.

Grampian

11.30 am, Thames. 1.20, Grampian News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.30, Film: Scandal at Scourie, with Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon. 3.55, Thames. 5.20, University Challenge. 5.50, News. 6.00, Grampian Today. 6.35, ATV. 7.30, London. 8.00, Barnaby Jones. 9.00, London. 10.30, Bannock. 11.45, Prayers.

Westward

9.25 am, Seaspray. 9.50, Inner Space. 10.15, Woody Woodpecker. 10.40, Planet of the Apes. 11.30, Thames. 1.20 pm, Westward News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.30, Film: Gulliver's Travels. 3.55, Thames. 5.20, Children of the Door. 5.50, News. 6.00, Westward Diary. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, Treasure Hunt. 7.30, London. 8.00, The Streets of San Francisco. 9.00, London. 10.30, Westward News. 10.35, ... 10.50, The Undefeated, with Glenn Ford.* 12.15 am, Faith for Life.

Anglia

11.30 am, Thames. 1.25 pm, Anglia News. 1.30, Thames. 2.30, Film: The Voyage of the Yes, with Desi Arnaz, Jnr., Mike Evans. 3.55, Thames. 5.20, University Challenge. 5.50, News. 6.00, About Anglia. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, Hogan's Heroes. 7.30, London. 8.00, The Collaborators. 9.00, London. 10.30, Probe. 11.00, Film: Daughter of the Mind, with Ray Milland, Gene Tierney. 12.25 am, Your Choice.

Radio

1
6.00 am, News. Colin Berry.† 7.00, Noel Edmonds. 9.00, Tony Blackburn. 12.00, Johnnie Walker. 2.02 pm, David Hamilton.† 4.30, Rosko's Round Table. 5.45, Newsbeat. 6.02, Sam Costa.† 6.45, Sports Desk. 7.02, A Question of Fun. 7.30, Ronnie Aldrich.† 8.30, As You Were.† 9.02, Music Night.† 10.02, Barn Dance.† 11.00, John Peel.† 12.00-12.05 am, News.
† stereo.

2
6.00 am, Radio 1. 7.02, Simon Bates. 8.27, Racing Bulletin. 9.02, Pete Murray.† 10.30, Jimmy Young.† 11.30, Waggoners Walk. 11.45, Jimmy Young.† 2.02 pm, Radio 1. 4.30, Waggoners Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk. 4.47, Sam Costa.† 6.45, Radio 1. 11.06, Len Jackson. 12.00-12.05 am, News.

3
7.00 am, News. 7.05, Haydn, Mozart.† 8.00, News. 8.05, Tchaikovsky, Berlioz, Schumann.† 9.00, News. 9.05, Palestrina.† 9.45, BBC Northern Ireland Orchestra: Joseph Horovitz, Delius, Mathias, Blue.† 10.30, Concert: Part 1, Strauss, Schubert. 11.45, Reading. 11.50, Concert: Part 2, Strauss. 12.10 pm, Concert: Part 1, Tippett, Haydn.† 1.00, News. 1.05, Playbill.† 1.20, Concert: Part 2, Mussorgsky, orch. Ravel.† 2.00, Schwetzingen Festival Piano Recital: Copland, Ravel.† 2.40, Haydn: Music attributed to him.† 3.00, Beethoven's Op 16 as quintet for piano and wind, and as piano quartet.† 4.30, Poulenc and Milhaud.† 5.25, Pied Piper.† 5.45, Homeward Bound.† 6.05, News. 6.10, Homeward Bound (continued). 6.30, Nations as Neighbours. 7.00, Village Prospects. 7.30, Pebble Mill Concert: Part 1, Mozart, Brahms.* 8.20, Russian Landscape Painting: Talk by Sir Cecil Parrott. 8.40, Concert: Part 2, Schumann, Faure.† 9.30, Death in Venice: Part 3, Pestilence and Death. 10.20, Schoenberg's Orchestral Variations.* 10.45, Music Now. 11.25-11.30 News.

4
6.20 am, News. 6.22, Farming. 6.40, Prayer. 6.45, Today. 7.00, News and more of Today. 8.00, News and more of Today. 8.45, Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00, News. 9.05, Voice of the People: 01-580 5432. 10.00, News. 10.05, Checkpoint. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, Pride and Sensibility. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, You and Yours. 12.27, Petticoat Line. 12.55, Weather. 1.00, News. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen with Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, Play: Arrangements. 4.00, News. 4.05, Any Answers? 4.35, Story: Drawn from Memory. 5.00, PM Reports. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.15, Top of the Form. 6.45, The Archers. 7.00, News Desk. 7.30, Pick of the Week. 8.30, Any Questions? 9.15, Letter from America. 9.30, Kaleidoscope. 9.59, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.45, A Book at Bedtime: The Little Ottleys. 11.00, The Financial World Tonight. 11.15, Today in Parliament. 11.25, Week Ending. 11.40, News. 12.01-12.04 am, Inshore forecast.

BBC Radio London, local and national news, entertainment, sport, music. 94.9 VHF, 206 M.

London Broadcasting, news and information station. 97.3 VHF, 261 M.

Capital Radio, 24-hour music, news and features station. 95.8 VHF, 194 M.

Yorkshire

11.00 am, Technoflash. 11.25, Benny and Marie. 11.45, History of the Cinema. 12.00, Thames. 1.20, Calendar News. 1.30, Thames. 2.30, The Beachcombers. 3.00, Houseparty. 3.25, Farmhouse Kitchen. 3.55, Thames. 5.20, University Challenge. 5.50, News. 6.0, Calendar. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, And Mother Makes Five. 7.30, London. 10.30, Calendar Sport. 10.45, The Avengers. 11.40-11.55, Night Gallery.

Border

10.35 am, Jason King. 11.30, Thames. 12.30, Police Surgeon. 1.20, News. 1.20, Border News. 1.30, Thames. 2.30, Film: Made in Heaven, with David Tomlinson, and Petula Clark. 3.55, Thames. 5.20, University Challenge. 5.50, News. 6.00, Border News. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, Mr and Mrs. 7.30, London. 10.30, Border Parliamentary Report. 11.00, Film: Scream of the Wolf, with Peter Graves, Clint Walker, Philip Carey. 12.20, Border News.

Tyne Tees

10.55 am, Starting Point. 11.00, Night of Surprise. 11.05, Technoflash. 11.30, Thames. 2.30 pm, Dangerman. 3.25, Farmhouse Kitchen. 3.55, Thames. 5.20, University Challenge. 5.50, News. 6.00, North East News. 6.05, Division. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, And Mother Makes Five. 7.30, London. 10.30, Sportstime. 11.00, Film: A Kiss Before Dying, with Robert Wagner, Jeff Hunter. 12.40 am, Epilogue.

Scottish

11.00 am, Magnificent White Nomad. 11.30, Thames. 1.25 pm, Road Report. 1.30, Thames. 2.30, Film: Il Broad Daylight, with Richard Boone. 3.55, Thames. 5.20, Bear. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, Julie's a Jolie. 7.00, The Protectors. 7.30, London. 8.00, Combat. 9.00, London. 10.30, Wass and Lade. 11.00, Late Call. 11.05, Film: Home for the Holidays, with Walter Brennan, Jessica Walter, Sally Field.

Ulster

11.30 am, Thames. 1.20 pm, Ulster News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.30, Film: Barnacle Bill, with Alec Guinness, Irene Browne. 3.55, Thames. 5.20, University Challenge. 5.50, News. 6.00, UTV Reports. 6.25, Police Six. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, Fire House. 7.30, Wild Wild West. 8.30, Sportscast. 9.00, London. 10.30, Tom and Tommy. 11.05-12.00, Police Story.

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". . . the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations."—Isaiah 61: 11.

BIRTHS

ALLAM.—On 16 December, at St George's, SW17, to Jean (née Evans) and Freddie Allam—a son (Marcus Edward), first grandchild for Kitty Evans.

CUNNINGHAM.—On December 17th, 1975, at Cresswell Hospital, Dumfries, to Virginia (née Butler) and Michael—a second daughter.

IRWIN.—On Dec. 12th at Whittington Hospital, London, to Elizabeth (née Collier) and Chris—a daughter (Rebecca Jane).

MITCHELL.—On December 16th, at King's College Hospital, to Elizabeth (née Meakin) and Charles—a daughter (Alice Elizabeth).

RICKETT.—On Dec 17th, 1975, at the Westminster Hospital, to Lanny and Johnny—a son (Charles).

THURLBY.—On 14th December, in Bermuda, to Hope (née Leather) and Christopher Thurlby—a son (Thomas Harold).

TURNER.—On Dec. 9th at King's College Hospital, to Kay and Vic—a daughter (Sarah Louise).

SILVER WEDDING

ERROLL OF HALE : SOWTON BARROW.—On 19th December, 1950, at St. Paul's Knightsbridge, Frederick James Erroll to Elizabeth Sowton Barrow. Present address: 21 Chester Place, London, W.14.

EMERALD WEDDING

TURNER : POLLARD.—On December 19th, 1920, at Shoreditch, Frank Turner to Ada Louisa Pollard. Now at 25 Maplehurst Close, St. Leonards on Sea.

DEATHS

BEHRENS.—On December 17th, Olive Louise, of Villa Rosa, Torquay, passed away. Funeral Torquay Crematorium on Monday 11.30 a.m.

BERNIC.—On Monday, December 15, at her home, 52 Lower Weald Calverton, Stony Stratford, Jeanne Bernic (née Welch) passed away. Funeral service at the Countess Crematorium, Milton, Northampton, on Friday, December 19, at 3 p.m. Family flowers only, please, but donations for the Brompton Hospital Research Fund, may be sent to J. S. Cowley & Son, Funeral Directors, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes. Telephone : Stony Stratford 3131.

GEFFEN.—On December 17th, suddenly, at King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, London, John Lionel Henry, beloved husband of Maureen, father of Robin and Anthony. Funeral at St Mary's Church, Felpham, Bognor Regis, Sussex, at 2 pm, Tuesday, December 23rd. Cut flowers only, please. A memorial service will be held at St Simon Zelotes Church, Milner St, London, SW3 at 2.30 pm on Monday, January 5th. All inquiries to J. H. Kenyon Ltd. 01-723 3277.

GIBBERD.—On 17th December, suddenly at his home in Bentworth, John Gibberd, aged 77 years, husband of Isobel. Cremation at the Park Crematorium, Aldershot, at 12.30, on Tuesday, December 23rd. Flowers to Alexander & Dry, Basingstoke.

HALL.—On December 16th, 1975, at Candle Cottage, Hartley Wintney, following an accident, Anne Cameron Hall. Cremation at the Park Crematorium, Aldershot, 3.30 pm on Monday, 22nd December.

HANMER, MARGUERITE FRANCES (Daisy), on 16 December, peacefully in hospital after a long illness, of Bryn Cottage, Llanbryn-[illegible]. Funeral service at Llan[illegible], 1.30 p.m., Tuesday, 23rd December, followed by cremation at Shrewsbury at 4.00 p.m. No flowers. Donations to St Mary's Church, Llan[illegible].

HARRISON.—On 18th December, 1975, Eleanor Dulcie, peacefully, at Milford-on-Sea, Hants, dearly loved wife of the late Brig. of Kit Harrison, OBE, formerly of Monte Carlo. Funeral Bournemouth Crematorium on Tuesday, 23 December at 3.45 pm.

HELLAWELL.—On December 18th, peacefully, Henry Swindells Hellawell, of Leadenhall, Chinley, Derbyshire, formerly of Brooklands, Cheshire, devoted husband of the late Agnes (née Entwistle), and dearly loved father and grandfather, aged 90 years. He carried his age with sweetness and dignity. Funeral private.

HORN, Dr JOSHUA S.—On December 17th, in Peking, after a long illness, which he endured with great fortitude.

IREMONGER.—On December 17th, peacefully, at Moonlark Cottage, Appledore, Kent, Ethel B. (Jean). Private family cremation. Memorial service at 3.30 p.m., on Monday, 5th January, at Kenardington, Kent. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to N.S.P.C.C. or Isles of Scilly Lifeboat.

KNEALE.—On Wednesday, December 17th, 1975, at Nobles I.O.M. Hospital, His Honour Sydney James Kneale, of Ballakneale, Vicarage Rd., Braddan, Isle of Man. Private funeral and cremation today, Friday, December 19th. Please, no flowers or letters. Donations if so desired to the I.O.M. branch R.N.L.I., c/o J. E. Crowe, Barclays Bank Ltd., Victoria St., Douglas, Isle of Man.

McCALL.—On December 15th, 1975, suddenly, Tom, beloved brother of May, Bruce, Australia. Cremation Golders Green Crematorium, East Chapel, 2.20 p.m., Tuesday, 23rd December. No flowers. Donations to Help The Aged, Room D.T. 7 Freepost 37, W.1. Enquiries to A. France & Son, 405 4901.

McCALL.—On December 17th, as a result of a motor accident, Gilbert Kerr, of Clifton, Bristol. Dearly beloved husband of Renee and father of Heather. Cremation private.

MELLARD.—On 17th December 1975, Mildred, of Field House, Siddington, Cheshire, wife of William Mellard and mother of Jill, David and Elizabeth. Funeral private on Monday. Enquiries and all flowers to H. Goodwin, London Road, Newcastle, Staffs. Telephone 616536.

MILLARD.—On December 17th, 1975, peacefully, at 142 Western Rd, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, Cecil William, aged 79, dear husband of Marjory.

MILNE.—On 17th December, 1975, at St. Andrew's Convent, Hawick, Jane Johnston, D.Litt. (formerly senior woman Tutor, University of Birmingham), of 14 Lansdowne Crescent, Edinburgh, aged 87. Funeral at Warriston crematorium (Cloister Chapel) on 22nd December, at 2.45 p.m.

PALMER.—On 17th December, 1975, peacefully in his 91st year at Midhurst Cottage Hospital, Sussex, Bertie Job, beloved father of Derek, John and Sonia. Cremation Chichester, 20th December, 3.30 p.m. No flowers, please.

PARSONS.—On December 16, Muriel Prudhoe, of Wateringfield, Aldeburgh, Suffolk. In her 99th year, widow of George Parsons, mother of the late Basil Parsons, mother-in-law of Veronica, grandmother of Elizabeth and Josephine and great-grandmother of Rebecca, Victoria, Geoffrey, Alexandra, Elizabeth, Antonia, Thomas, Philippa and Peter. Funeral on Monday, December 22 at Aldeburgh Parish Church at 12 noon. Flowers to the church please.

REMINGTON, KATHLEEN, of Maldon, Essex, sister of Muriel and the late Gladys, on 17th December, 1975, aged 75, peacefully in hospital in Tunbridge Wells. She has donated her body to medical research. Memorial service at All Saints', Maldon, 12 noon, Friday, 16 January, 1976. No flowers, but donations if wished to The London Hospital.

van der WOUDE.—On December 17th, 1975, peacefully, Mary (née Wendell), aged 92, after a full and rewarding life.

IN MEMORIAM

DAVIES.—In ever loving memory of David Leslie Davies, Captain 4th P.W.O. Gurkha Rifles and Gilgit Scouts, 19th December, 1945.—Mother, John, Florence and Muriel.

HARRIS, SAMUEL.—In constant memory of Dear Old Dad and "Gen". We are forever grateful for your wisdom and your devotion to us, and the memories you left us—these are our keepsakes.—Horace, Billy, Jacky, Bunty and Peter.

ROADS.—In ever-loving and constant memory of a devoted husband and father, Herbert Clifford Roads, who died eleven years ago today, 19th December—missed so very much.—Vera and Christopher.

ROSS.—Alan David Patrick. In ever loving memory.

SLOCOMBE.—In treasured memory of George Slocombe who passed away on 19th December, 1963. Ever missed by his loving family.

VICKERS, JAMES.—Remembering today and always my dear brother who died December 19th, 1973.

WHATLEY, David Stuart, A.C.I.S. tragically killed 1973. Your love, your smile made our lives worth while. Mama and Papa.

WRIGHT, RICHARD LYNDEN.—In loving memory of our beloved only child on his birthday.

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PLAQUES and Memorial Windows.—Booklets of Artists' designs post free: state booklet required.—G. Maile & Son, 10-12 The Borough, Canterbury, Kent.

PERSONAL COLUMNS
ALSO ON PAGE 27

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
TRADE

NORMA SKEMP
Personnel Services
wish all their clients a very Happy Christmas and a Properous New Year

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

JAMES BELLAMY
is alive and well and will be dancing at
THE UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS COSTUME BALL
Join him and other members of the cast on January 9th, Hyde Park Hotel for Gala evening and 3 course breakfast!
Tickets £7.50 each available from
MIND Mental Health Association for Kensington and Chelsea
89 Sydney Street, S.W.3. 352 4260

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
PRIVATE

MAURICE AND HILDA LAING
wish all their friends a very happy Christmas. They are not sending cards this year but are making a contribution to the Canterbury Cathedral appeal.

ACORN
We'd like to wish everyone who has dealt with us this year
A Very Merry
Christmas

BROWN AND MERRY
besides sending Christmas cards as usual, wish to extend Christmas greetings to house buyers and house sellers following this season of goodwill if you bring this notice to us in the New Year you could be in for a pleasant surprise. Brown & Merry
Country House Dept., Woolerton House, Wendover.

CLAYMAN AGENCY
Wishes all its past, present, and future applicants, a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.
247 5531
112, Houndsditch, E.C.3.
where people matter!

JAYGAR CAREERS
Wish all their clients a very happy
CHRISTMAS SEASON
and a Prosperous New Year.
53a Sloane Square SW1

N.S.S. WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS wishes all our clients a very happy Xmas and New Year and looks forward to continuing good relations in 1976.

PRIME APPOINTMENTS wish a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to everyone we have had the pleasure of dealing with throughout 1975.

SEARCY'S of Knightsbridge wish a happy Christmas to all their friends both downstairs and upstairs.

BOYD & BOYD, Estate Agents, Beauchamp Place, wish all their clients and friends a happy Christmas, and all good luck in 1976.

BRIEF ENCOUNTER wishes all clients & friends Sea. Greetings.

CLIVE J. HOLMES wishes all his clients, colleagues and friends a Happy Christmas and hopes you are all assured of prosperity in the New Year.

LEE DONALDSON ASSOCIATES, Consultant Economists, 21 Bury Street, S.W.1, wish their friends a happy Christmas—and an upturn in economic outlook for 1976.

PART-TIME Careers Ltd. wish all their Clients a Happy Christmas and a rewarding New Year.

THE WOOLACOMBE BAY HOTEL, Devon. Mr and Mrs Bertie Johnson send to their many friends Best Wishes for Christmas and New Year.

TRAVEL CARE wish all their clients a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to serving you all in 1976.

VALERIE ALLEN would like to wish all her clients and friends a very happy Christmas.

BERTIE BLOUNT wishes all his friends a Happy Christmas.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS to all from Paula and Bill Williams.

CULLUM and AMANDA McALPINE wish all their friends and relatives a Merry Xmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

GNADE & MILNER GRAY wish all their friends a joyous Noel and a happier New Year.

JOE EDWARDS of Yatscombe, Boars Hill, Oxford, is not sending cards this year, but wishes all his friends a Very Happy Christmas and New Year.

KENNETH AND NANCY ADAMS, Bucks Horn Oak, Farnham, send warmest wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all their friends. Their personal records having been lost with their caravan, addresses would be most gratefully received.

MR. & MRS. CECIL McBRIDE, of Carn-a-Gariff, Moville County, Donegal, send good wishes to their many friends for a very happy Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.

MR. & MRS. H. D. STEINER and family, Heathfield Park, Highgate, wish all their friends a Merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.

MR. AND MRS. PETER HUGHES, of Furneaux Pelham, are sending no Christmas cards this year. Instead they will send a donation to the World Wildlife Fund. They are devoted to their friends but do, quite frankly, prefer wild animals: with the obvious exception of that loutish cad, the elephant.

MRS. LOCKWOOD extends thanks to all Chow-Chow Breeders for their help and advice in '75, and wishes them all a Merry Christmas.

MRS. MOIRA CHAMBERS wishes her family and friends a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

NANA.—Happy 90th Christmas. All my love.—Jennifer.

PETER AND PAULINE Wagner will remember good friends at Christmas and New Year, but won't subsidize the GPO.

R. & E. ST JOHN COOPER wish all dear friends a peaceful loving Christmas and New Year . . . and snubs to the GPO.

RICHARD ADAMS AND ELIZABETH hope that all their friends will accept this expression of good wishes for a very Happy Christmas and New Year, as they are not sending cards.

RUTH & HUGH MULLENS of Shenham wish all their cousins, friends, ex-colleagues and ex-pupils a happy Christmas and prosperity in 1976.

STEVEN HARRIS will not this year be putting an advertisement in "The Times" to say that he will not be sending Christmas cards this year.

TICHY'TMS—you're nice. Love, Kisses and Xmas Wishes.—C.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
TRADE

ABBEY APARTMENTS, Beauchamp Pl., wish all their clients a very Happy Xmas.

BALLOON.—Latest maternity fashions from Paris. Wish all their customers a Happy Christmas. 77 Walton St., S.W.3. 589 3121.

THE HOUSE OF
Steiner
Wish all their friends and associates a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous 1976

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN
Is the largest single supporter in the UK of research into all forms of cancer.
Help us to conquer cancer with a legacy, donation or "In Memoriam" donation to Sir John Reiss, Hon. Treasurer.
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Dept TX1, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5AR.

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME on Richmond Hill, where seriously disabled ex-Servicemen find peace of mind and security. Please help by donations or legacy. The Star and Garter Home for Disabled Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, Richmond upon Thames, Surrey. Tel. 940 3314.

CAN YOU SPARE ONE Sunday afternoon a month? Contact needs volunteer drivers to take out lonely old people. 01-240 0630.

WOULD BRAYHEAD shareholders please contact me with object forming shareholders committee.—Box 1806 S. The Times.

MUSIC STUDIOS. For details see today's Services column.

HAPPIER LIVES for lonely old people can be provided by your Will. Please include a bequest for the National Benevolent Fund for the Aged, 12 Liverpool Street, London, E.C.2.

MUSIC.—Sheet music scores and books wanted to raise money for Amnesty International. Will buy but donations welcomed.—Phone 01-204 5656.

BRIAN. Love and greetings from Ann and the boys.

MARRIED COUPLE living S.W. London.—See Domestic Sits.

BATTERED WOMEN, desperately need refuges this Christmas. Camden Women's Aid appeals for donations for The National Women's Aid Federation, 51 Chalcot Road, S.W.3.

N. ITALY.—EFL Teachers required. See General Vacancies.

SPAIN. English woman wants to work there. See Situations Wanted.

TO WALTER ARTHUR CHARLES DICKETTS or anyone knowing of his whereabouts, please communicate Re Adair Hobson, via Box 1941 S. The Times.

REDECORATING OR ALTERATIONS? See Business to Business.

JAGUAR S.S. 100 Drophead coupe.—See Motor Cars.

ANTIQUE BRIC-A-BRAC SHOP for sale.—See Bus. to Bus.

NATIONAL COACH/SQUASH. See Gen. Vacs.

NATURAL RUSSIAN SABLE Stole. See Sales & Wants.

EMMA.—Chemists rule OK—Michael.

ENGINEERING Co seek director. See Business to Business.

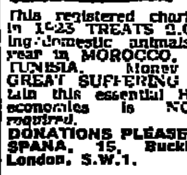
GYPSY CARAVAN. See For sale and Wanted.

THE INNS OF COURT by Pamela Blake. Those who missed exhibition call 01-235 4625.

BRIAN. We await your return from the wilderness. A.H. and C.

INVERNESS AREA.—Young man, 18 years, ex-public school, seeks accommodation with family as paying guest from February to August, 1976.—Box 1783 S, The Times.

GARAGE FORECOURT to let.—See Business to Business.



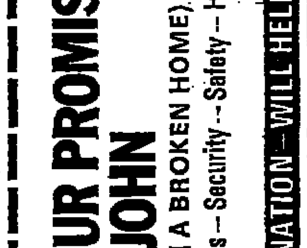
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This registered charity established in 1923 TREATS 2,000,000 working domestic animals FREE each year in MOROCCO, ALGERIA and TUNISIA. Money to relieve GREAT SUFFERING and to maintain this essential HELP to rural economies is NOW urgently required.
DONATIONS PLEASE TO: DEPT T, SPANA, 15, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.1.

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NEW MERLIN'S CAVE
Margery Street, London, WC1
LUNCHTIME JAZZ CONCERT
12.30-2.00 pm
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GEORGE MELLY AND BERYL BRYDEN
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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You can help us by writing "Save the Children" into your will, or adding a codicil. A legacy will be of incalculable value to us and can be made without detriment to your family estate.

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For our annual report and further information, please contact th

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DR. BARNARDO'S

wish to apologise to members of the public who may yet be unaware of the reasons for some duplicate or even multiple deliveries of their Christmas Postal Appeal. In an attempt to reduce expenses this appeal was processed for Barnardo's by an envelope addressing agency and investigations are in hand to discover the cause of the error.

Dr. Barnardo's are most grateful for the understanding and sympathy expressed by so many kind people who have returned evidence of multiple postings, thereby enabling the claims against the agency to be substantiated.

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THE SOUTH LONDON MISSION invites the aged, lonely and incapacitated to share Christmas at Bermondsey Central Hall—providing Christmas Dinners, Parties, Parcels and Friendship. Please share our privilege by sending your help to The Superintendent, Rev. Eric Dobson, Central Hall, Bermondsey Street, London, SE1 3UJ.

ALL WHO HAVE HELD Commissions (regular or temporary) in the Armed Forces, and their wives or widows, are eligible to use King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers (Sister Agnes's), Beaumont Street, W.1. We appeal for donations and legacies to help us maintain the low charges of this independent hospital.

NANNIES (KENSINGTON), 27 Stratford Road, W.8, will be closed from 23rd-29th December. We wish all parents, nannies and children a very Happy Christmas.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

TO GET THE BIG CONTACTS THE GASLIGHT
4 Duke of York Street, St. James's, S.W.1.
offers superb luxury entertainment from 9 p.m. in a friendly way and our prices make sense. No membership for out of town or overseas visitors.
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YORKSHIRE DALES.—Cottage to let until Easter, sleeps 4. From £10 p.w. Telephone 01-794 7638.

HOLIDAY COTTAGE, near Quantock Hills, free for Christmas, sleeps 6; £35 p.w.: bookings accepted for later dates.—082-343 243 or 01-221 5447.

WILTSHIRE COUNTRY HOUSE by Longleat, sleeps 8, C.H. Available now to mid-January. £60 per week all inclusive.—Ring 01-727 1816.

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FLY WINGSPAN Australia, New Zealand, Far East and Africa. Book now for Xmas to avoid disappointment. Most competitive fares.—Wingspan, 6 Great Queen St., W.C.2. 01-242 3852. Airline Agents.

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THE BEAUTY OF THE CARIBBEAN lies in Nevis, the unspoilt island; 2 weeks at the Montpelier Hotel from £351, including scheduled flights.—Brochure 736 0003. Rankin Kuhn. ABTA. ATOL 336ABC.

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SAVE £30 + TO EUROPE. Tours, scheduled flights Heathrow, plus Skiers Special Air Service to Geneva, Zurich, winter 75/76. V.F.L. 01-222 7575. ATOL 401B.

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SKI, AUSTRIA. Young people, 10 Jan., 15 days, £120.—Eurotours, 86 Dalling Rd., W.6. 748 4834/5476. ABTA. Also 1976 Tours.

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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THOMSON VILLAS AND APARTMENTS
Prices subject to availability and adjustment.
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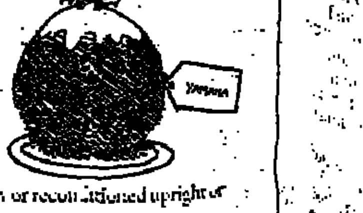


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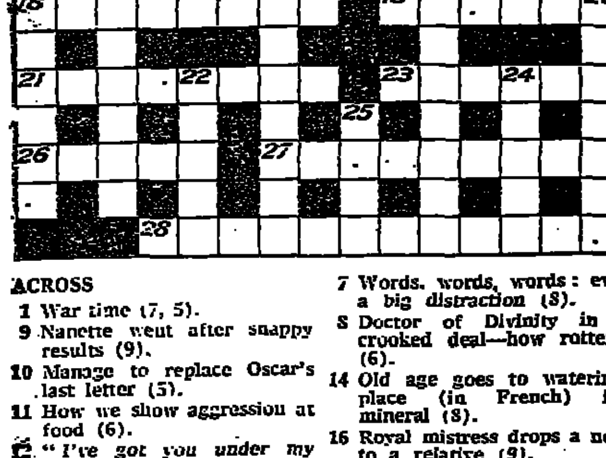
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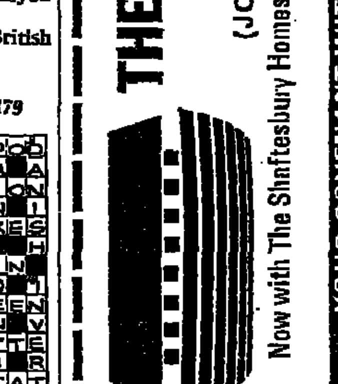
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,180



ACROSS
1 War time (7, 5).
9 Nanette went after snappy results (9).
10 Manage to replace Oscar's last letter (5).
11 How we show aggression at food (6).
12 "I've got you under my skin" his theme-song? (8).
13 Pollute the gorge (6).
15 One pretty well endowed by her appearance (8).
18 Magnetic quality of certain bears? (8).
19 Temper shown by late queen to Albert (6).
21 Girl in jail for what she did to her youth (8).
23 Like being without money at the christening (6).
26 Fire-breathing Athenian law-man? (5).
27 Saint Simeon reporting gossip perhaps (9).
28 Used by Saint-Saëns to open his Danse Macabre? (8, 4).

DOWN
1 Record a short answer in difficult circumstances (7).
2 One jumping on board, we hear, after sundown (5).
3 Like the net result of arranging the trial cure (9).
4 Wordsworth's cottage bird (4).
5 Electric terminals with a type of electricity we have in transports (8).
6 Line on an ash tree (5).
7 Words, words, words: ever a big distraction (8).
8 Doctor of Divinity in a crooked deal—how rotten! (6).
14 Old age goes to watering-place (in French) for mineral (8).
16 Royal mistress drops a note to a relative (9).
17 Trouble in the state concerning races (8).
18 RAF type invented a hair-cream (6).
20 Stole it? That could be putting it mildly (7).
22 One way to put down money for wine (5).
24 Appearance of Runyon characters, say (5).
25 Disgrace leader of British crew (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,179



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